



# Lab 1: Research Plan

## Assignment Summary and Objectives

For your first lab, you will collaborate in your group to develop a research plan to guide your work this semester. Begin by revisiting your work from last semester, discussing where you think your implementation plan might lead, and ultimately determining an overarching research question and rationale for your work. Through this process, you will learn how to frame a research question and develop a plan to answer it using multiple methods.

## Submission Information

Each of you should submit a plan to your ePortfolio, due on **xx**

## Sections of Plan

Split up the sections evenly among group members, and label your sections!

### Purpose (100-150 words)

Explain briefly what you want to learn this semester, and how that knowledge is grounded in last semester's progress, feedback from the community partner, and the scope of your project.

### Research Question (50-100 words)

Include one overarching question to guide your research. In a few sentences, explain the other questions you considered, why you chose this question, and how you have limited your scope.

### Geographic Focus and Stakeholders (100-150 words)

This could be as specific as the students in a classroom or as broad as the Metro East region. Explain how broad of a geographic focus your research will encompass and who your key stakeholders are. Tell us what you know about them and what you still need to know.

### Sources for Review (5 sources per group member)

Each of you are responsible for writing three annotations this semester related to your research question. Include a list of possible sources (at least five per group member), and assign them to group members. This will give you some choices as you refine your ideas. Your sources should be peer-reviewed. They may serve as models for similar work or help you learn about your topic in other contexts, see how they mitigated risks, or how they assessed their projects.

## Methodology (100-150 words per lab)

Based on your exploration of the syllabus and assignment sheets, in this section, explain how you might use the labs in class to answer your research question. If you plan to conduct a survey, who might you share it with and what data would you hope to collect? If you will conduct a focus group, who might you interview and how might you learn something different than you did with the survey? Organize this section by lab assignment.

## Rubric

Criteria	A Proficient Lab will...	A Developing Lab Will...	A Lab Still in Need of Work Will...
<b>Length/ Formatting of Plan</b>	Have clearly labeled sections and meet word requirements	Have sections and meet word requirements	Not have labeled sections and not meet word requirements
<b>Grammar/ Style</b>	Be relatively free of grammatical errors; experiment with style	Have several grammatical errors, or basic style issues	Have significant grammatical errors and stylistic issues
<b>Purpose</b>	Have a clear purpose tied to the needs of partner, previous research, and scope	Have a purpose but needs to clarify ties to partner, previous research, or scope	Not have purpose, or will not connect to partner, previous work, or scope
<b>Research Question</b>	Have a clear research question tied to purpose, and scope.	Have a research question but could tie more to purpose or scope	Have no research question or question not tied to purpose or scope
<b>Geographic Focus/ Stakeholders</b>	Have a logical explanation for geographic scope and chosen stakeholders	Begin to explain the geographic scope and chosen stakeholders, needs more detail	Not explain geographic scope or chosen stakeholders
<b>Source List</b>	Have full list of sources that are peer-reviewed and appropriate to topic	Have a full list sources, but they may not be peer reviewed or appropriate to topic	Lack the appropriate number of sources or sources not peer reviewed
<b>Methodology</b>	Have a clear plan for each lab and explain how they will address research question	Have a plan for each lab but could elaborate on ties to research question	Not have a clear plan for each lab or lacks ties to research question