

Written Assignment #4
(Due at the beginning of class __/__/__)

Please write in no more than 17 pages total:

***** The title page, abstract, appendices, and references ARE NOT included in the page limit**

- 1) **Your REVISED introduction (3 points)** including the appropriate components. Note that you should have moved your hypothesis and/or research question formulated in the first assignment to the end of the literature review. Remember that a research statement, a hypothesis, and a research question are 3 different concepts. Make sure you know the difference among these.
- 2) **Your REVISED literature review (5 points)** including the appropriate components: background, theory, “body” sections, and hypothesis(es) and/or research question(s) which were moved from the introduction to the end of the literature review.
- 3) **Your REVISED methods (7 points)** which includes:
 - a. **Research Design** – Identifying and describing the specific design or method for the quantitative and/or qualitative components of your study, i.e., cross-sectional survey research, classical experimental design, phenomenology, ethnography, etc.
 - b. **Sample** – Identifying and describing:
 - i. Sampling frame, specific sampling method with procedures (i.e., simple random sampling, convenience sampling, etc.), and your anticipated sample size
 - ii. Demographic description, in general, of your prospective participants
 - c. **Study Site** – Identifying and describing where your study will take place
 - d. **Variables and Measurement, and/or Themes** - Including:
 - i. Operational definition for all quantifiable variables (including controls) and/or description of qualitative themes consistent with your study’s model
 - ii. Description of quantitative and/or qualitative instruments, for example, a detailed description of the survey and example items for a

quantitative measure, and/or the questions asked in an interview. Also include a discussion about the reliability and validity of these instruments.

- iii. Description of procedures for establishing the credibility, trustworthiness, and verification for qualitative data.
- iv. Also refer to the appendix where sample items and/or copies of your instruments will be placed as part of the paper.
- e. **Human Subjects Considerations** – Describing how you will obtain informed consent, ensure participants' confidentiality or anonymity, protect them from harm, and submit your proposal to an IRB for review and approval.
- f. **Procedures and Data Collection Techniques** – Describing the procedures of your study, and if you are conducting an intervention, program, or treatment, a description of your curriculum.
- g. **Study Design Limitations** – Describing the potential limitations of your method

****New for SW 242: Proposed Analysis and Implications for Social Work from a Transcultural Perspective ****

- 4) **Proposed Analysis (5 points)** – Describing how you will analyze the data in your proposed study. The proposed analysis is a sub-section in the Methods section and includes:
 - a. **Quantitative** -- Describing your list of variables in your model (including control variables), and how you will conduct appropriate analyses **at each of the three levels: univariate, bivariate, and multivariate**. For example, you would identify what statistical tests you would conduct (i.e., chi-square test of association, independent samples t test, one way ANOVA, multiple regression with dummy coding, etc.) at each level, and which variables they involve. You should also identify which test(s) ultimately answer your research hypothesis(es) for the quantitative portion of your proposal.
 - b. **Qualitative** – Describing the analysis of the demographic variables relevant to your study at the **univariate level**. You should also describe your proposed analysis of qualitative data, e.g., how you will use coding, thematic analysis, and/or content analysis procedures.
- 5) **Anticipated Findings and Implications for Social Work from a Transcultural Perspective (3 points)** -- State what you expect your findings to be, and explain the implications of your proposed study for social work from a transcultural perspective. Consider the Elements of the

Transcultural Perspective that is a part of the mission of the School of Social Work at San Jose State University, including: 1) cultural knowledge, 2) cultural competence, 3) power, privilege, oppression, and structural contexts, 4) positionality and self-reflexivity, and 5) respectful partnership. Explain how your proposed study, and your anticipated findings address **at least one of the five components in the transcultural model.**

6) **Additional Proposal Components (2 points)**

- a. **Abstract** should be 250 words or fewer and should summarize the entire proposal. Include the following information: research question and/or hypothesis, research design, sampling procedures and estimated sample size, study site, data collection methods, anticipated findings and implications for social work. References are not included in the abstract.
- b. **Minimum 15 references.** Although a majority of references are cited in the literature review, the introduction and methods section can contain references as well.
- c. **Appendices.** Appendices are required for the assignment. This section contains your demographic questions (i.e., developed from Assignment #3), interview questions, if applicable (i.e., developed from Assignment #1), other items and questions, copies of your instruments, and/or other detailed documentation relevant to your study.
- d. **APA.** APA style should be used consistently throughout the paper.

Tips and Suggestions:

- ★ **This assignment is intended as the opportunity to improve your research proposal from ScWk 240, incorporating feedback and new information learned in ScWk 242.**
- ★ **Write, review, and edit this paper carefully! Remember that this assignment serves as the official evaluation for writing competency in the MSW Program if you still need to fulfill this requirement.**
- ★ Please read these instructions and double check that you have included each subsection of the methods in your paper. A reader should be able to replicate your study from the information you give in your methods. The methodology is similar to a cookbook recipe: include all the ingredients and the instructions of how to make your dish.
- ★ Please read your syllabus and other class materials for more information and tips about how to write your methods section.
- ★ Refer to your reader and textbook literature review examples written in academic style.

Grading: 30% of your final grade and **official assessment of writing, if applicable**

This assignment is REQUIRED. This assignment is the draft of your complete research proposal. Please see the attached grading rubric for Written Assignment #4. This assignment is the official evaluation of your writing competency, if applicable.

Paper Components:

Please submit all assignments in APA format. Written Assignment #4 is the rewrite of your introduction, literature review, and methods proposed in ScWk 240. You now have the components for a complete research proposal:

Title Page [not part of page count]

Abstract [separate page - 250 words or fewer – not part of page count]

Introduction [recommended 1 to 2 pages]

Literature Review [recommended 5 to 6 pages]

Methods [recommended 6 to 7 pages]

Anticipated Findings and Implications for Social Work from a Transcultural Perspective [recommended 1 page]

References [separate page – 15 minimum – not part of page count]

Appendices [separate pages – not part of page count]

Paper Format Example:

Following is a working outline with APA heading levels based on the previous hypothetical example regarding MSW Student Life Satisfaction. Please consult with your professor for additional instructions and assistance.

Introduction

Relevance to Social Work

Literature Review

Background of MSW Students and Life Satisfaction

Developmental Theory and MSW Student Life Satisfaction

Age and Life Satisfaction

Family Life and Life Satisfaction

Socioeconomic Status and Life Satisfaction

Hypotheses and Research Question

Method

Research Design

Sample

Study Site

Variables and Measurement, and/or Themes

Reliability and Validity and/or Credibility and Verification of Qualitative Data

Human Subjects Considerations

Procedures and Data Collection Techniques

Study Design Limitations

Proposed Analysis

Anticipated Findings and Implications for Social Work from a Transcultural Perspective

Student Name: _____ ScWk 242 Section #: _____

Date of Evaluation: ____ / ____ / ____

Score: ____ / 30 points

Writing Assignment #4
Official Writing Assessment Rubric and Score Sheet

Revised Introduction (3 points) Score for this Section _____			
	Excellent to Very Good (3)	Average or Marginal (2)	Poor to Very Poor (1)
Revised Problem and Research Statement	Paper contains a developed introduction to a problem and has a clear research statement.	Paper attempts to introduce a problem and identify a research statement, but is somewhat vague, or identifies too many or mixed foci and ideas.	Paper does not have a developed introduction and does not have a clear research statement.
Revised Context of the Study and Relevance to Social Work	Paper contains a clear description of the context of the proposed study and a well developed argument as to the study's relevance to social work.	Paper contains a vague description of the context of the proposed study and argument as to the study's relevance to social work is present but somewhat general.	Paper lacks a description of the context of the proposed study and does not have a developed argument as to the study's relevance to social work.

Revised Literature Review (5 points) Score for Section _____			
	Excellent to Very Good (5 to 4)	Average or Marginal (3)	Poor to Very Poor (2 to 1)
Revised Literature Review Background	Literature review contains a relevant and developed background subsection for the population and issue or problem identified in the introduction.	Literature review contains a vague or general background subsection for the population and issue or problem identified in the introduction.	Literature review does not have a developed background subsection for the population and issue or problem identified in the introduction.
Revised Literature Review Theory	Literature review has a theory subsection and identifies a theory relevant to the population and issue or problem identified in the introduction. It also contains a clear and concise description of this theory and an explanation of how it pertains specifically to the variables and/or themes identified in the introduction and research statement.	Literature review has a theory subsection attempts to identify a theory relevant to the population and issue or problem identified in the introduction. However, the subsection is somewhat vague or incomplete regarding how this theory pertains specifically to the variables and/or themes identified in the introduction and research statement.	Literature review does not have a theory subsection, and does not identify a theory, or the theory is irrelevant to the population and issue or problem identified in the introduction. The subsection is vague or incomplete regarding how this theory pertains specifically to the variables and/or themes identified in the introduction and research statement.

Revised Literature Review Continued

	Excellent to Very Good	Average or Marginal	Poor to Very Poor
Revised Literature Review: “Body” Sections	<p>Major “body” subsections of the literature review are well organized according to the paper’s model. Each subsection explains with evidence (i.e., an integrated review of relevant literature) the connection between each independent and dependent variable consistent with the hypothesis and/or how each theme relates to the research question.</p> <p>This part of the literature review also includes in its integrated discussion the current status of the specific topic in the professional knowledge base, limitations of previous studies related to the specific topic, and how the proposed study will make a contribution.</p>	<p>Major “body” subsections of the literature review are somewhat organized according to the paper’s model. Each subsection attempts to explain with evidence the connection between each independent and dependent variable consistent with the hypothesis and/or how each theme relates to the research question. Yet, paper lacks some evidence and/or somewhat weak presentation of argument.</p> <p>This part of the literature review includes a somewhat vague or incomplete discussion of the current status of the specific topic in the professional knowledge base, limitations of previous studies related to the specific topic, and how the proposed study will make a contribution.</p>	<p>Major “body” subsections of the literature review are non-existent, or poorly organized and inconsistent with the paper’s model. Subsections are vague and lack explanation and evidence regarding the connection between each independent and dependent variable consistent with the hypothesis and/or how each theme relates to the research question.</p> <p>This part of the literature review is vague and incomplete, with limited discussion of the current status of the specific topic in the professional knowledge base, limitations of previous studies related to the specific topic, and how the proposed study will make a contribution.</p>
Revised Literature Review: Research Question(s) and/or Hypothesis(es)	<p>The literature review contains clearly and correctly worded research question(s) and/or hypothesis(es) consistent with the proposal’s focus.</p>	<p>The literature review contains somewhat clearly and correctly worded research question(s) and/or hypothesis(es) fairly consistent with the proposal’s focus.</p>	<p>The literature review contains poorly worded research question(s) and/or hypothesis(es) inconsistent with the proposal’s focus, or lacks a research question or hypothesis.</p>

Revised Methods (7 points) Score for Section _____

	Excellent to Very Good (7 to 6)	Average or Marginal (5 to 4)	Poor to Very Poor (3 to 1)
Revised Methods: Design	<p>Methods section contains a specific design or method for the quantitative and/or qualitative components of the study.</p>	<p>Methods section contains a general design or method for the quantitative and/or qualitative components of the study, or is somewhat incomplete in identifying and describing the design.</p>	<p>Methods section does not contain a specific design or method for the quantitative and/or qualitative components of the study, or its description is vague.</p>

Revised Methods Continued

<p>Revised Methods:</p> <p>Sample</p>	<p>Methods section contains a specific sampling frame, sampling method, anticipated sample size, and a general demographic description of prospective study participants.</p>	<p>Methods section attempts to describe the sampling frame, sampling method, anticipated sample size, and a general demographic description of prospective study participants. However, an element above is missing or is somewhat vague.</p>	<p>Methods section does not contain a description of sampling frame, sampling method, anticipated sample size, and a general demographic description of prospective study participants, or multiple elements above are missing or are vague.</p>
<p>Revised Methods:</p> <p>Study Site</p>	<p>Methods section clearly identifies and describes the potential study site(s).</p>	<p>Methods section identifies and describes the potential study site(s), but is somewhat vague.</p>	<p>Methods section does not identify or describe the potential study site(s).</p>
<p>Revised Methods:</p> <p>Variables and Measurement , and/or Themes</p> <p>Reliability and Validity and/or Credibility and Verification of Qualitative data</p>	<p>Methods section includes operational definitions for all quantifiable variables (including controls) and/or description of qualitative themes consistent with the paper's model.</p> <p>It also includes a description of quantitative and/or qualitative instruments, for example, a detailed description of the survey and example items for a quantitative measure, and/or the questions asked in an interview.</p> <p>And, it includes a discussion about the reliability and validity of these instruments, and/or procedures for establishing the credibility, trustworthiness, and verification for qualitative data.</p>	<p>Methods section includes most operational definitions for the quantifiable variables (including controls) and/or description of qualitative themes related to the paper's model.</p> <p>It also includes, somewhat, a description of quantitative and/or qualitative instruments, for example, a description of the survey and example items for a quantitative measure, and/or the questions asked in an interview.</p> <p>And, it somewhat discusses the reliability and validity of these instruments, and/or procedures for establishing the credibility, trustworthiness, and verification for qualitative data.</p>	<p>Methods section lacks many or most operational definitions for the quantifiable variables (including controls) and/or description of qualitative themes related to the paper's model.</p> <p>It also lacks a description of quantitative and/or qualitative instruments, for example, there is a vague or no description of the survey and example items for a quantitative measure, and/or the questions asked in an interview.</p> <p>And, it lacks a discussion about the reliability and validity of these instruments, and/or procedures for establishing the credibility, trustworthiness, and verification for qualitative data.</p>
<p>Revised Methods:</p> <p>Human Subjects Consideration s</p>	<p>Methods section describes how informed consent is obtained, how participants' confidentiality or anonymity is ensured, and how participants are protected from harm.</p> <p>It also includes a statement that the proposal will be submitted to an IRB for review and approval.</p>	<p>Methods section vaguely describes how informed consent is obtained, how participants' confidentiality or anonymity is ensured, and how participants are protected from harm.</p> <p>It also includes a statement that the proposal will be submitted to an IRB for review and approval.</p>	<p>Methods section poorly describes, or does not describe, how informed consent is obtained, how participants' confidentiality or anonymity is ensured, and how participants are protected from harm.</p> <p>It also lacks a statement that the proposal will be submitted to an IRB for review and approval.</p>

Revised Methods Continued

	Excellent to Very Good	Average or Marginal	Poor to Very Poor
Revised Methods: Procedures and Data Collection Techniques	Methods section describes the procedures of the study, and if conducting an intervention, program, or treatment, a clear description of the curriculum.	Methods section somewhat describes the procedures of the study, and if conducting an intervention, program, or treatment, a description of the curriculum.	Methods section poorly describes, or does not describe, the procedures of the study, and if conducting an intervention, program, or treatment, lacks a clear description of the curriculum.
Revised Methods: Study Design Limitations	Methods section describes the potential limitations of the method.	Methods section somewhat describes the potential limitations of the method.	Methods section poorly describes, or does not describe, the potential limitations of the method.

Proposed Analysis (5 points) Score for Section _____

		Excellent to Very Good (5 to 4)	Average or Marginal (3)	Poor to Very Poor (2 to 1)
N E W	Proposed Analysis Statistics to be used in analysis	Methods section describes appropriate analysis of proposed variables at all three levels (univariate, bivariate, and multivariate).	Methods section somewhat describes appropriate analysis of proposed variables at all three levels (univariate, bivariate, and multivariate).	Methods section poorly describes, or lacks description of appropriate analysis of proposed variables at all three levels (univariate, bivariate, and multivariate).
	N E W	Qualitative data analysis plan	Methods section describes appropriate analysis of qualitative data (process of coding, thematic analysis, and/or content analysis procedures), if applicable.	Methods section somewhat describes appropriate analysis of qualitative data (process of coding, thematic analysis, and/or content analysis procedures), if applicable.

Anticipated Findings and Implications for Social Work from a Transcultural Perspective (3 points) Score for Section _____

		Excellent to Very Good (3)	Average or Marginal (2)	Poor to Very Poor (1)
N E W	Anticipated Findings and Implications for Social Work from a Transcultural Perspective	Paper describes anticipated findings of the proposed study and the ways in which these findings have implications for social work from a transcultural perspective. Implications for at least one of the	Paper somewhat describes anticipated findings of the proposed study and the ways in which these findings have implications for social work from a transcultural perspective. Implications for at least one of the five components in the	Paper poorly describes anticipated findings of the proposed study and the ways in which these findings have implications for social work from a transcultural perspective. Implications for at least one of the five components in the transcultural model are poorly described

	five components in the transcultural model are described.	transcultural model are somewhat described.	
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Additional Proposal Components (2 points) Score for Section _____

	Excellent to Very Good (2)	Average or Marginal (1)	Poor to Very Poor (Less than 1)
<p>Overall Proposal:</p> <p>References, Citations, Use of APA Style, inclusion of Appendices, and Abstract</p> <p>* References and citations can be used in the introduction, literature review, and methods sections of the proposal</p>	<p>Paper uses APA style consistently throughout.</p> <p>Paper contains minimum 15 references, with fewer than 2 APA style errors in references or citations.</p> <p>Appendices include demographic items, qualitative questions (if applicable), and other items and instruments related to the project.</p> <p>Abstract summarizes the main elements of the proposed study in 250 words or fewer</p>	<p>Minor errors in APA style.</p> <p>Paper contains 12-14 references, with between 2 and 4 APA style errors in references or citations.</p> <p>Appendices include most demographic items, qualitative questions (if applicable), and other items and instruments related to the project.</p> <p>Abstract somewhat summarizes the main elements of the proposed study in 250 words or fewer</p>	<p>Multiple errors in APA style.</p> <p>Paper contains fewer than 12 references, multiple APA style errors in references and citations, and has one or more unattributed citation(s).</p> <p>Appendices include some, or no demographic items, qualitative questions (if applicable), and other items and instruments related to the project.</p> <p>Abstract poorly summarizes the elements of the proposed study in 250 words or fewer.</p>

Writing Components (5 points) Score for Section _____

	Excellent to Very Good (5 to 4)	Average or Marginal (3)	Poor to Very Poor (2 to 1)
<p>Overall Quality of Writing Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph Structure and Continuity • Transitions From Idea to Idea 	<p>All or almost all paragraphs are written with a clear topic sentence, are well developed, and contain supportive information clearly related to the topic in context.</p> <p>Transitions from one idea to the next are clearly logical and presented in an orderly</p>	<p>Most paragraphs contain a clear topic sentence, are developed, and contain some supportive information within the topic in context.</p> <p>Transitions from one idea to the next are somewhat logical and orderly.</p>	<p>Many paragraphs are written without clear topic sentences, are poorly developed, and lack supportive information related to the topic in context.</p> <p>Transitions from one idea to the next are awkward, illogical, or mixed, i.e. often jumping back and forth or scattered throughout paper.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentence Structure and Clarity • Vocabulary/ Appropriate Use of Words • Assignment Directions 	<p>fashion.</p> <p>All sentences or all but one sentence are complete and written in clear, logical, and concise fashion.</p> <p>Paper contains appropriate and sophisticated choice and use of words throughout paper.</p> <p>Paper follows all general directions.</p>	<p>Almost all sentences are complete, with 2 to 3 vague or run-ons.</p> <p>Paper contains generally appropriate and proper use of words, but a few errors in usage or vocabulary simplistic.</p> <p>Paper follows almost all general directions.</p>	<p>Many sentences are incomplete, unclear, or poorly written.</p> <p>Paper contains inappropriate or inaccurate use of words, and vocabulary underdeveloped.</p> <p>Paper does not follow general directions.</p>
<p>Punctuation, Grammar, and Spelling</p>	<p>Paper is written with proper grammar, i.e. mistakes in verb tense, subject predicate agreement, and use of pronouns fewer than 2 throughout paper.</p> <p>Paper has fewer than 2 spelling mistakes.</p> <p>Paper has fewer than 2 punctuation mistakes.</p>	<p>Paper is written mostly with proper grammar, i.e. mistakes in verb tense, subject predicate agreement, and use of pronouns between 2 and 4 throughout paper.</p> <p>Paper has between 2 and 4 spelling mistakes.</p> <p>Paper has between 2 and 4 punctuation mistakes.</p>	<p>Paper is written with poor grammar, i.e. multiple mistakes in verb tense, subject predicate agreement, and use of pronouns more than 4 throughout paper.</p> <p>Paper has more than 4 spelling mistakes.</p> <p>Paper has more than 4 punctuation mistakes.</p>
<p>Grand Total:</p>			
<p>Grade (please circle one): Pass No Pass</p>			