

G 211 Research Methods
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List of Journals and other tips for the Research Proposal

Find overviews over research fields/areas in the Annual Review of Sociology, Encyclopedia of Sociology, Sociological Dictionaries etc. These are very useful to get a good sense of the key questions ask in your field, and the current “state of the debate,” as well as to identify the “big names” in your field. The latter are very useful to find for definitions, conceptualization, etc.

Formulating Research Questions:

Make sure your variables (indep. and dependent) are in your research question or if you are pursuing exploratory research – the “what” you’re trying to find out about. As a reminder variables need to be able to vary!

Some tips for your bibliography:

Please do decide on which style you will use for citations and be consistent throughout your paper. I suggest to use the ASA Style

<http://www.calstatela.edu/library/bi/rsalina/asa.styleguide.html>, this is the style that the Schutt book uses.

The 5- 10 references should be **academic books** and **refereed** journal articles.

"Academic" books means books published by scholars and written for a primarily academic audience with peer review processes in publishing houses. So, do look for books that are published in "university" presses.

You can find good sociological book reviews, for example, in the journal [*Contemporary Sociology*](#)

You should identify at least 5 **research articles** that have been published in refereed “mainstream sociology journals.” Tip: Do searches on JSTOR, Sociological Abstracts, etc. to find sociological articles related to your topic/research question. Mainstream sociology journals include the following.

American Journal of Sociology
American Sociological Review,
City & Community
Demography
Journal of Marriage and the Family
Gender and Society,
Journal of Health and Social Behavior
Social Psychology Quarterly
Sociological Methodology
Sociological Theory
Sociology of Education
Social Science Research

Law and Society Review
Population and Development Review
Social Forces
Social Problems.

There is considerable debate within sociology about ranking journals – some use the Journal Citation Reports ranked by total citations or impact factor. I have included here also those that are edited by the ASA sections.