APA Format and Hypothesis Testing

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Pedro Wolf
Today

- APA Format
- Components of a research project
- Hypothesis Exercise
APA Format Major Sections

- Title Page
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Works Cited
Title Page

- Italicized items are what you should input
- The topic and page numbers are in the header in word, right justified
  - Topic is 1-2 words
- Running Head- left justified followed by a shortened title
- Full title in middle of page, centered
  - Your Name
  - Affiliation
  - Date
- The title needs to be informative and interesting.
Abstract

- This and the title are first impression
  - the number of people who actually read your paper helps determine work's impact
- I should be able to cite your abstract
  - Some journals just abstracts

A short description of your study. The length of the abstract depends on the journal. Should summarize your paper. Be sure to have your hypothesis, the main results, and a short conclusion.
Introduction

- Title first line, centered
- Hook the reader first paragraph
  - something catchy
- Include review of literature and hypothesis
- In short these are your primary premises

Title

Introduce your paper. Should have catchy first paragraph, get your reader hooked. Include your review of the literature. Include your hypothesis and make it clear it is your hypothesis.
Methods

- Outline your methods
  - Secondary premises
- These section is very important in science
  - independent confirmation of results
  - someone you don't know should be able to read this section and run your study
- More on this section later

Topic 4

Text from the introduction continued. Blah blah blah.

Methods

Participants

Twenty six undergraduate students from the University of Arizona, 18 females 8 males.

Materials

Six questionnaires where used. Describe each of them.

Design and Procedure
Results

● This is where you describe the results of your study

● More later.

Topic 5

Text from the methods continued. Blah blah blah.

Results

Descriptive Statistics

Means, Standard Deviations, etc...

Other Statistical Procedure

Correlations, Student's T-test, F-ratio, etc...
Discussion

- Bring the argument to a close
- How did hypothesis (theoretical constructs in FPOT) when tested (things and events FPOT/Methods and Empirical Constructs/Results?)
- More later
References

- Starts on new page.
- Alphabetized by the last name of first author.
- Journal Articles one format, books another

References

Author last name, Initial. Initial. (Year) Title: don't capitalize words and notice the hanging indent. *Journal Title, volume* number(Issue Number), Page numbers.


Author Last name, Initial. Initial. (Year) *Title: this time in italics*. City, State/country: Publisher
There are specifics on making tables, don't just add them in your text.

We will get into them later.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1.</th>
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Figure Captions

- You need to explain your figure in the figure captions page.
- When referring to figures in your paper, you name them in order of appearance.
- Italicize the name.
Figures

- Make it clear and neat.

Figure 1.

Genetic Contribution by Number of Offspring

Proportion of Unique Genetic Contribution

Number of Offspring

When assortative mating =

- 0.0
- 0.1
- 0.2
- 0.3
Components of a Research Project

- Probably starts with either theory or observing something of interest.
- You derive a hypothesis from this
  - The hypothesis needs to be testable
- You design a study to test the study
  - Experimental is best if you want to determine cause
  - Quasi-experimental is best when experiment unethical or control of potential cause is not possible or impractical
    - this method kind of in between correlational and experimental
  - Correlational strongest when doing external validity type studies.
    - more on this later
- Run Study
- Analyze data
- Communicate the findings
  - Either through paper, oral presentation, or both.
Hypothesis Exercise

• Take 5 minutes and write down everything that interests you about psychology/human behavior.
Hypothesis Exercise

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• Look at your list and pick your five favorites
  • List them in order of your favorites
Hypothesis Exercise

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● Take another five minutes and try to come up with one testable hypothesis for all five of them.
  ● Before you begin, what does testable mean?
Testable Hypotheses

- It must generate an observational test.
  - The world is round (we can observe the contour of the Earth)
    - Ships at sea- the masts disappear
    - We can go around it etc...
- It must be falsifiable
  - There is a god (not falsifiable)

Examples: testable, falsifiable?
- there are other inhabited planets
- two objects dropped from same height will fall to ground at same time
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Hypothesis Exercise Continued

• Break up into groups of four and discuss your five hypothesis.

• As a group determine which ones are testable.
Homework

• Turn in before 10 p.m. next Tuesday.
• Your five hypotheses
• Explain which ones are testable and why
• Rank order them in order of which ones are most likely to be tested this semester given our limited resources.