

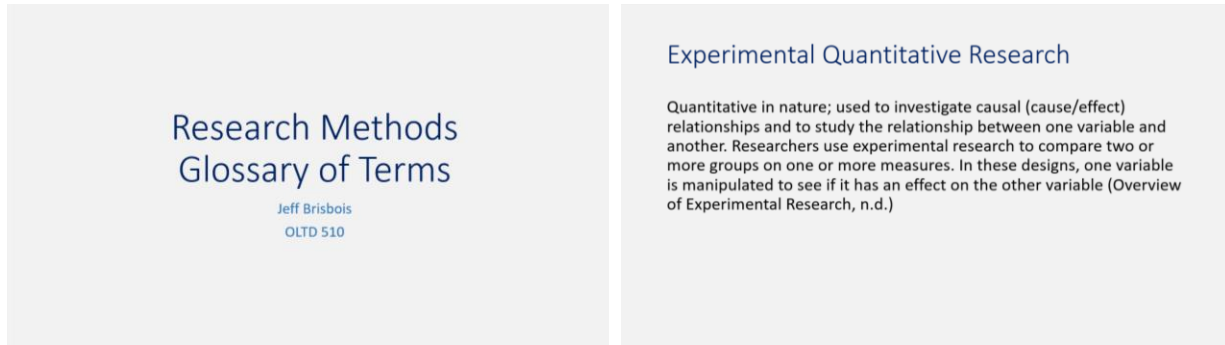
OLTD 510 ePortfolio Reflection #1

OLTD Program Learning Outcome(s):

- Become familiar with common terms, definitions and elements related to online environments

Evidence:

Research Methods Glossary of Terms



Reflection:

The piece of evidence I have chosen to support the above learning outcome is the Research Methods Glossary of Terms that I completed from May 12-16th 2019. This assignment is a list of terms with APA referenced definitions that are key to the topic of research methods and methodology. I completed it by first watching a recorded video presentation by Rachel Moll entitled “Research Methods 101”, choosing terms from the video, then researching definitions for those terms on the web. I used Microsoft PowerPoint to create my slide show file.

In creating this glossary of terms I learned about different types of educational research methods that I could use to complete a major research project. I learned the difference between quantitative and qualitative research and more specific methods of research within each of those two categories. Quantitative research collects quantities, numbers, and data and can be done through experimental methods where the researcher investigates causal relationships between one variable and another, or through non-experimental methods where the researcher examines relationships between pre-existing

groups and not causal relationships can be drawn. Qualitative research collects stories, pictures, and video to identify patterns and themes and is very interpretive. Some of the most common types of qualitative research are ethnographic, phenomenological, critical, narrative, and action research. My glossary of terms concluded by stating the difference between validity, which is the extent to which scores measure the variable they are intended to, and reliability, which is the degree of consistency of a measure. The strength of this piece of evidence is that it demonstrates my knowledge of academic educational research, which is something I will need to be familiar with if I choose to do a major research project in the future.

This OLTD Program Outcome of becoming familiar with common terms and definitions is important to me as an online educator because I believe that educators should stay current on research in their field which they could potentially use to improve their practice. Understanding the terms associated with research methodologies has made me more confident interpreting research articles and more confident that I could undertake a research project in the future. I could implement this outcome into my own practice by using my knowledge of research methods to further my understanding and knowledge of current trends and emerging pedagogical strategies.