PART 1: NAVIGATING DIFFERENT TYPES OF RESEARCH SETTINGS AS A STUDENT RESEARCHER

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RESEARCH SETTINGS

Academic
Crisis House (including Inpatient/Outpatient)
Prison
NAVIGATING RESEARCH IN AN ACADEMIC SETTING

• Ethical guidelines and adhering to institutional policies is very important.
• Academic research
  • Theoretical studies
  • Experimental research
  • Community-based research

Process:
• Formulate research questions and hypotheses
• Choose an appropriate research methodology based on your objectives. This could be qualitative, quantitative, or a mixed-methods approach.
• Tools and Techniques: Select suitable tools and techniques for data collection and analysis. Consider the resources available to you within the academic setting.
  • Funding, laboratory space, research team.
Navigating Research in an Academic Setting

Funding and Resources

- **Grants and Scholarships**: Investigate funding opportunities available through your institution, government agencies, or private foundations.
- **Resource Allocation**: Plan how you'll utilize available resources such as lab equipment, software, or databases. Consider any limitations that might impact your research.
- **Workshops and Courses**: Take advantage of workshops, courses, or seminars offered by your institution on research methods, ethics, or specific tools and software.
Collaborations & Mentorship:

- Engage with academic supervisors or mentors who can provide guidance, support, and valuable feedback throughout your research journey.
- Appreciate the journey!
- **Collaborations:** Consider collaborating with other researchers or institutions. Collaborations can offer additional expertise, resources, and broader perspectives.
  - Additional IRB approval required.
NAVIGATING RESEARCH IN A CRISIS HOUSE

• Most important consideration is the client’s vulnerability

**Ethical and Legal Considerations**

• **Informed Consent:** It's crucial to ensure that all participants are fully informed about the research, understand their involvement, and consent voluntarily.
  • Mental capacity of participants is important.

• **Confidentiality and Privacy:** Strict measures must be in place to protect the privacy of participants and the confidentiality of the data collected.
NAVIGATING RESEARCH IN A CRISIS HOUSE

Practical Considerations/Skills

- **Therapeutic Rapport and Trust:** Establishing trust with the clients.
- **Safety and Sensitivity:** Be vigilant about safety and prepared to respond appropriately to sensitive situations. Researchers should be trained to recognize and respect the emotional states of participants.
  - Location for interaction.
  - Clients who may experience a manic episode or psychosis
  - Safety training is key
    - Suicide risk assessments
NAVIGATING RESEARCH IN A CRISIS HOUSE

Practical Considerations/Skills

- Cultural and Contextual Sensitivity:
  - Socio-cultural identities.
  - Awareness & respect, as research participation is voluntary.
  - Training is key*
NAVIGATING RESEARCH IN A CRISIS HOUSE

Examples of Research:

• Tracking symptomology
  • Internal
  • External
• Recording clinical sessions (no camera, only audio)
• Case studies (for class presentations)
  • Deidentify data
NAVIGATING RESEARCH IN A PRISON SETTING

The safety and well-being of the incarcerated population is very important (in the context of neuro/psychological assessments).

Ethical Considerations

- **Informed Consent:** Ensuring that participants are fully informed about the study, its potential risks and benefits, and comprehend what is being asked of them.
  - Consent must be voluntary and free from any form of coercion.
- **Confidentiality:** Safeguarding the privacy of participants and the confidentiality of the information they provide.
- **Compliance with Laws and Policies:** Researchers must comply with national and local laws governing research in correctional settings, as well as any specific regulations of the prison system.
**NAVIGATING RESEARCH IN A PRISON SETTING**

**Practical Considerations/Skills**

- **Access and Permissions:** Gaining access to a prison for research purposes typically requires permission from prison authorities, which may involve a detailed proposal of the study’s aims, methods, and ethical considerations.
  - Warden must approve.
- **Building Trust:** Establishing a rapport with both staff and inmates is crucial.
  - This takes time, and there is variability in this process.
  - Learning personalities.
  - Understanding the criminal history of clients.
UNIQUE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR A PRISON SETTING

- **Safety and Security** are emphasized!
  - YOU must feel safe (assessed)!
  - Inmate must also feel safe.
  - Attire.
  - Safety precautions/training.
  - Communication skills with custody/nursing staff.*
    - The balance between including custody and maintaining confidentiality of inmates.
  - Awareness of manipulation tactics.
  - Understanding the behavioral history of inmate, when communicating with administration (for approval).
  - Stigma
COMMONALITY WITHIN MOST RESEARCH SETTINGS

Managing Challenges

- **Time Management:** Academic research often involves balancing multiple responsibilities. Develop a realistic timeline and manage your time effectively.
- **Ethical and Practical Challenges:** Be prepared to navigate any ethical dilemmas or practical obstacles that arise.
  - Seek advice from supervisors or the IRB as needed.
  - Consult. Consult. Consult. (different perspectives)
- **Current Literature:** Stay informed about advancements in your field through academic journals, books, and reputable trainings.
THANK YOU
QUESTIONS?

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PART 2: Navigating Microaggressions in Research Settings

TUES
MAY 7
2:30-3:30 PM

With Dr. Monique Turner, Department of Psychology

Working with professors and principal investigators with perceived power can create a challenging environment for students, especially for ethnic minorities. Some of these experiences reflect microaggressions; as a student, how would you respond? Do you know how to identify microaggressions? Do you have specific coping strategies that are helpful? Narratives and autoethnographies will be explored.

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