Based upon feedback you have already received from me, you should provide an updated Proposal along with your Study Design submission.

How will you gather your data?

You will need to take two random samples (one from each population) but it may be more practical to do a stratified sample, systematic sampling, etc. Try to make it as random as possible, and document the random procedures as a part of your overall sampling technique. Your exact sampling procedure must be submitted with detail, including times/places if applicable. Include a copy of any survey with complete questions. Include any potential website URLs that you expect to use. You can change questions/URLs later if you need to. Include enough detail so that another person could conduct the study exactly the same way you did.

Try to make your sample sizes as large as possible. Try to get sample sizes of at least 40. The two different sample sizes do not have to be the same but they can be. You should include what you think your sample sizes will be.

What obstacles will you overcome? You will need to put down how you will try to avoid bias and lurking variables. It would be best if you specifically described them, especially if they fall under topics described in class such as voluntary response, nonresponse, convenience sampling, undercoverage, etc.

The Study Design submission is worth 5 points and must be received no later than 11:59:59 pm on Thursday, Oct. 22, 2009. It is preferred that you submit your study design as a Microsoft Word Document attached to an e-mail (however, hard copies are also accepted). A point will be deducted from your project grade for every day that the Study Design is late (including days on the weekend). This is applied to every group member. Only one copy per group needs to be submitted but it must have the full names of all group members on it (as well as the days/times you attend class).

Feel free to e-mail me if you have any questions or concerns.

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