

## Exploratory Research Design Week 02

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A **research design** is a framework or blueprint for conducting the marketing research project. It details the procedures necessary for obtaining the information needed to structure or solve marketing research problems.



**Define the Information Needed** 

Design the Exploratory, Descriptive, and/or Causal Phases of the Research

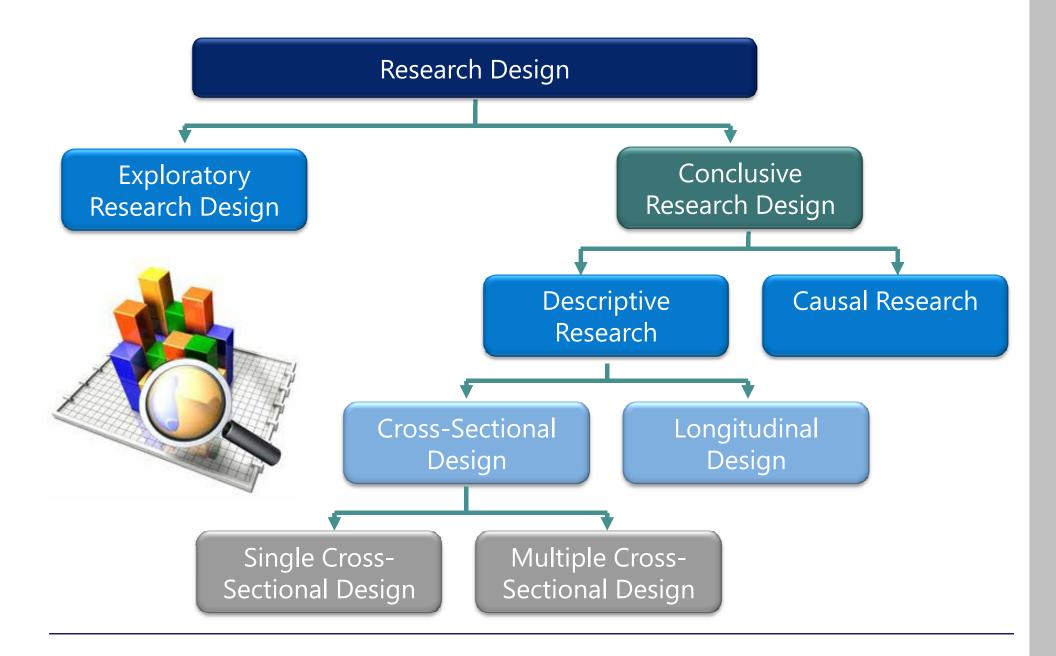
**Specify the Measurement and Scaling Procedures** 

**Construct a Questionnaire** 

Specify the Sampling Process and the Sample Size

**Develop a Plan of Data Analysis** 

# A Classification of Marketing Research Designs



# **Exploratory vs Conclusive Research Designs**



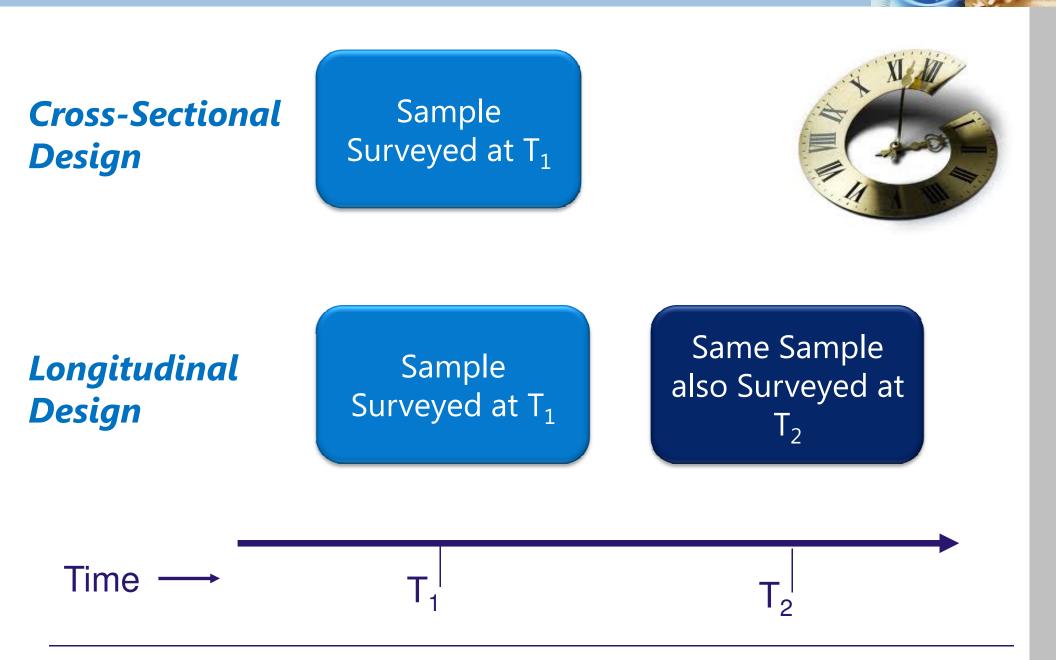
	Exploratory	Conclusive
Objective	To provide insights and understanding.	To test specific hypotheses and examine relationships.
Characteristics	<ul> <li>Information needed is defined only loosely.</li> <li>Research process is flexible and unstructured.</li> <li>Sample is small and non- representative.</li> <li>Analysis of primary data is qualitative.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Information needed is clearly defined.</li> <li>Research process is formal and structured.</li> <li>Sample is large and representative.</li> <li>Data analysis is quantitative</li> </ul>
Findings/ Results	<ul> <li>Tentative</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Conclusive</li> </ul>
Outcome	<ul> <li>Generally followed by further exploratory or conclusive research</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Findings used as input into decision making</li> </ul>

# A Comparison of Basic Research Designs



	Exploratory	Descriptive	Causal
Objective	Discovery of ideas and insights.	Describe market characteristics or functions.	Determine cause and effect relationships.
Character- istics	<ul> <li>Flexible.</li> <li>Versatile.</li> <li>Often the front end of total research design.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Marked by the prior formulation of specific hypotheses.</li> <li>Preplanned and structured design.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Manipulation of one or more independent variables.</li> <li>Control of other mediating variables.</li> </ul>
Method	<ul> <li>Expert surveys.</li> <li>Pilot surveys.</li> <li>Case studies.</li> <li>Secondary data (qualitative).</li> <li>Qualitative Research.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Secondary data (quantitative).</li> <li>Surveys.</li> <li>Panels.</li> <li>Observational and other data.</li> </ul>	Experiments.

## **Cross-sectional vs. Longitudinal**



## **Alternative Research Designs**

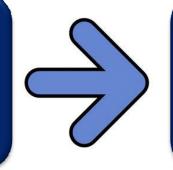


#### (a)

**(c)** 

Exploratory Research

- Secondary Data Analysis
- Focus Groups



Conclusive Research • Descriptive/Causal

#### (b) Conclusive Research • Descriptive/Causal

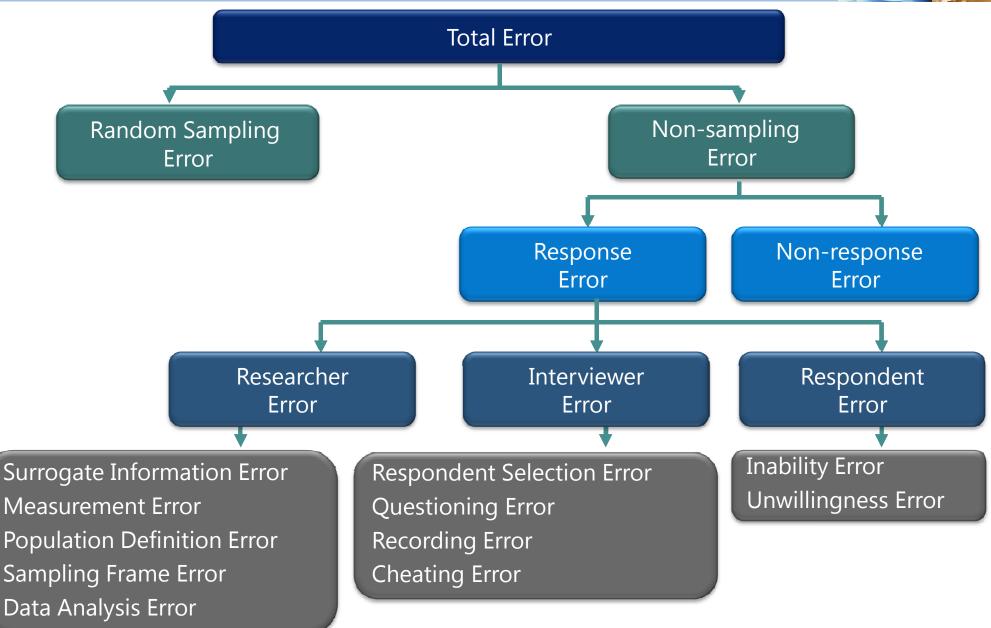
# Conclusive Research Descriptive/Causal



#### Exploratory Research

- Secondary Data Analysis
- Focus Groups

# **Potential Sources of Error in Research Designs**



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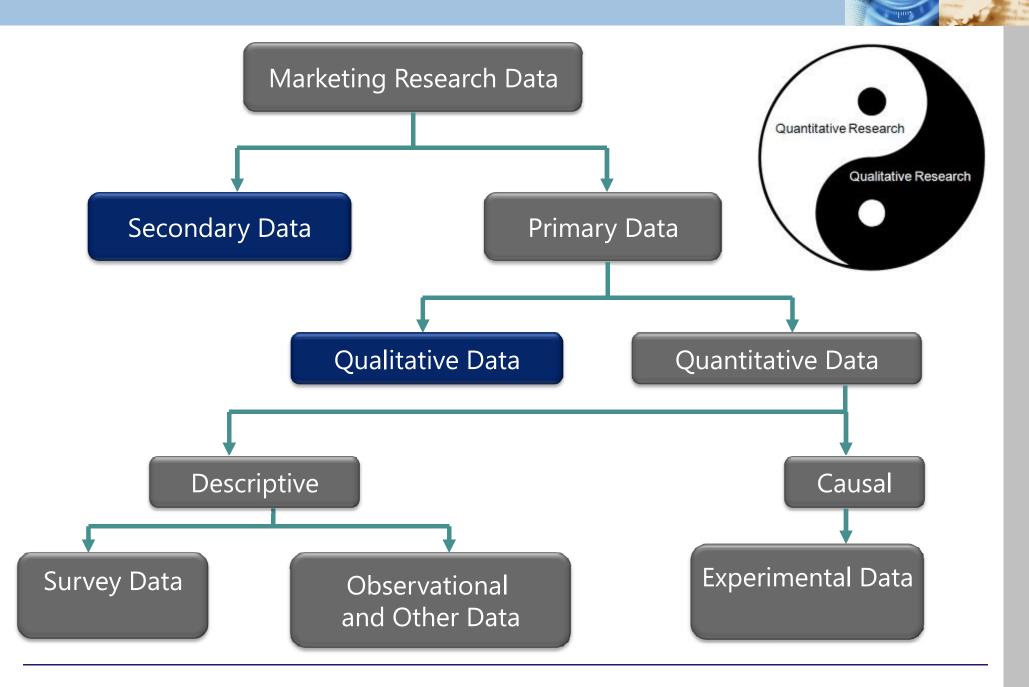
## **Research Proposal Outline**

- ✓ Executive Summary
- ✓ Background
- Problem Definition/Objectives of the Research
- Approach to the Problem
- ✓ Research Design
- ✓ Fieldwork/Data Collection
- ✓ Data Analysis
- ✓ Reporting
- ✓ Cost and Time
- Appendices





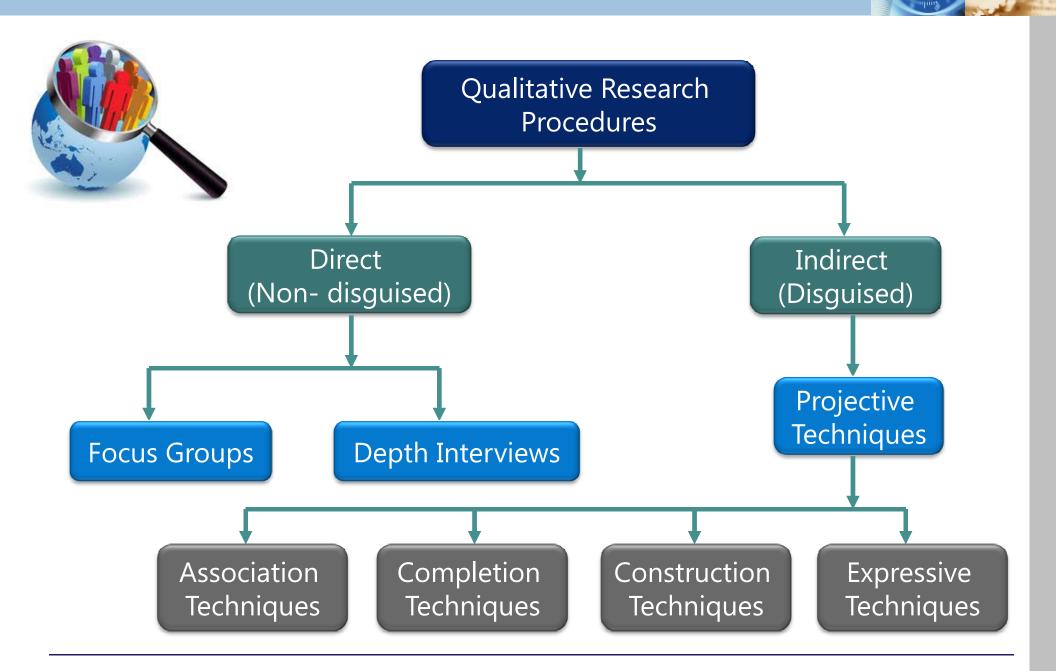
## **Exploratory Research Design : Qualitative Research**





	Qualitative Research	Quantitative Research
Objective	To gain a qualitative understanding of the underlying reasons and motivations	To quantify the data and generalize the results from the sample to the population of interest
Sample	Small number of non- representative cases	Large number of representative cases
Data Collection	Unstructured	Structured
Data Analysis	Non-statistical	Statistical
Outcome	Develop an initial understanding	Recommend a final course of action

## A Classification of Qualitative Research Procedures



An unstructured, indirect form of questioning that encourages respondents to project their underlying motivations, beliefs, attitudes or feelings regarding the issues of concern.

- In projective techniques, respondents are asked to interpret the behavior of others.
- In interpreting the behavior of others, respondents indirectly project their own motivations, beliefs, attitudes, or feelings into the situation.

## **Word Association**

Stimulus washday fresh bubbles towels

Mrs. M everyday sweet bath dirty Mrs. C ironing clean soap wash

## **Completion Techniques**

In sentence completion, respondents are given incomplete sentences and asked to complete them. Generally, they are asked to use the first word or phrase that comes to mind.

A person who shops at Hero is \_\_\_\_





### **Completion Techniques**

With a picture response, the respondents are asked to describe a series of pictures of ordinary as well as unusual events. The respondent's interpretation of the pictures gives indications of that individual's personality.



#### **Construction Techniques**

In expressive techniques, respondents are presented with a verbal or visual situation and asked to relate the feelings and attitudes of other people to the situation.

Role playing Respondents are asked to play the role or assume the behavior of someone else.



- Data reduction Select which aspects of the data are to be emphasized, minimized, or set aside for the project at hand.
- 2) Data display Develop a visual interpretation of the data with the use of such tools as a diagram, chart, or matrix. The display helps to illuminate patterns and interrelationships in the data.
- **3) Conclusion drawing and verification** Considers the meaning of analyzed data and assess its implications for the research question at hand.

