

Types of Research

- **Basic Research**
 - Asks fundamental questions about the nature of the subject.
 - Empirically tests key theoretical concepts
- **Applied Research**
 - Asks questions related to practical problems.
 - Empirically tests and/or evaluates potential solutions.

14

Steps to Doing Research

1. Review the theory and research related to an area of interest.
2. Formulate a hypothesis.
3. Design a study to test the hypothesis and make a prediction about the outcome of the study.

17

Steps to Doing Research

4. Conduct the study and collect the necessary data.
5. Evaluate the data in terms of the prediction and the hypothesis.
6. Adjust the theory as needed based on the new data and report your findings.

18

Initial Stages of Research

- Almost all research begins with some form of a question.
 - *I wonder if writing summary notes of reading assignments facilitates the understanding of what was read?*
- The questions are then restated as a research hypothesis
 - *Students who take notes as they read will score higher on a comprehension test than students who don't.*

19

The Research Hypothesis

- A **research hypothesis** is a tentative statement about a relationship between two or more variables.
- Examples of hypotheses:
 - Defendant attractiveness will influence jury decisions
 - Children from single-parent homes will be more independent.
 - Regular exercise will reduce depression.

20