

The best way to avoid misalignment is to make sure that you align the choices you make in each step in the development of your study, with decisions you've already made about your study. In order to avoid misalignment:

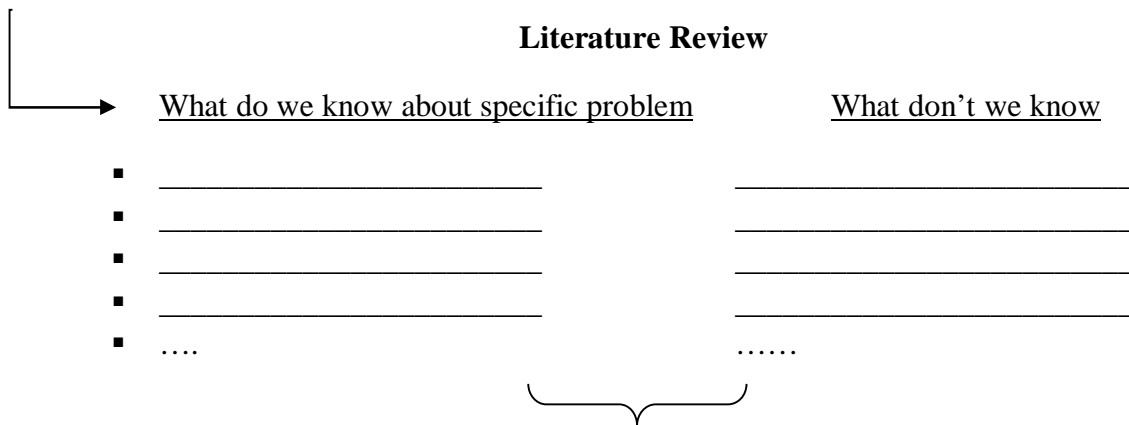
- Your research objectives must be appropriate to and consistent with the specific problem you've identified that drives the need for your study, and the knowledge gap that your research is intended to address.
- Your research questions must be appropriate to and consistent with your research objectives.
- Your hypotheses must be appropriate to and consistent with your research questions. Your research method must be appropriate to and consistent with your research objectives and the nature of your research questions.
- Your research design must be appropriate to and consistent with your research method.
- Your research methodology must be appropriate to and consistent with your research design.

Study Alignment: Mental Model

Situation – _____

Statement of the General Problem –

Statement of the Specific problem –



Gap = _____

What's our objective (Gap)?

Research Questions

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4.

┌
├───▶ Why significant (scholarship)

Method / Design

Method and Design = _____

Purpose Statement: _____.

Some content borrowed from Dr. Ken Sherman with permission (2013)