

English 203 Primary Research Drafts

Purpose: Many fields of study and professions include primary research. Chemists craft lab experiments, business create customer-satisfaction surveys, zoologists observe animals in their natural environments, and journalists interview experts and eyewitnesses. All are forms of original primary research. Primary research is often necessary to answer questions or further hypotheses. Understanding how primary research is conducted can guide you in your chosen field while also helping you be a better consumer of statistical data, observational information, and interview-based statements.

Process: For your research project, each member of your group must conduct primary research in one of the following three categories: observations, interviews, and/or surveys. By Friday, March 4th, each member of your group should submit a draft of their primary research: a survey for those doing surveys, a list of questions for those doing interviews or focus groups, a description of observation protocols for those doing observations.

Before beginning to craft your primary research instruments, read the Driscoll research section that corresponds to your planned approach.

Observation (Driscoll – page 160): A detailed, focused set of observations and measurements collected at a specific time and place.

Interview (Driscoll – page 164): A set of questions producing informative answers in a one-on-one or small group setting.

Survey (Driscoll – page 166): A questionnaire producing statistical data about an issue or the perception of an issue.

The results of your primary research will be incorporated in your research paper.

Primary Research drafts are worth 50 points and are due at the start of class on **Friday, March 4th**.