Sources of knowledge

- Beliefs
- Tradition
- Authority
- Emotions
- Personal Experience
- Intuition
- Research
Sources of knowledge

Research

- Process
  - Select problem
  - Review literature
  - Write research hypothesis
  - Collect data
  - Analyze data
  - Interpret findings
  - State conclusions

- Limitations
  - Human subjects
  - Public institution
  - Complexity of research problem
  - Methodological difficulties

- Characteristics
  - Empirical
  - Public methods (Verifiable)
  - Objective
  - Logical
  - Precise
Research

Functions of

Basic Research
• Concerned with knowing, explaining, and predicting natural and social phenomena
• Often starts with theory, principle or generalization
• Tests theories
• Uses inductive logic

Applied
• Often conducted “in the field” rather than laboratory
• Focused on solution to practical problems
• Less concern about generalization

Evaluation
• Assesses merit and worth of particular programs and/or practices
Research

Approaches to

Quantitative: (Numbers)

Differ in:
- Assumptions
- Research Purpose
- Research Methods and processes
- Prototypical studies
- Researcher role
- Importance of context
- Description only or generalizability

Qualitative: (Narrative)
Research

Process for Developing Knowledge

Identify Problem

Conduct Empirical Studies

Replicate Studies

Synthesize prior Studies

Adoption and Evaluation