

## Assumptions, Limitations and Delimitations

NOTE: Assumptions are

- Factors potentially influential to your study for which you have no hard data, might not ever know, and can't or don't intend to control for.
  - You may have anecdotal data related to these and, if so, it's worth reporting these.
  - It's best if you can discuss how you plan to verify your assumptions if possible (thus, taking them from uninformed assumptions to informed opinions).
  - Examples may include: honesty or participant response, accuracy of proctored instruments, or utility of a particular instrument in your study (*though not* it's validity and reliability – this should be demonstrated through empirical support)

NOTE: Limitations are ...

- Impediments to demonstrating the internal or external validity of your study.
  - These should be relatively minor ... major limitations are sufficient basis to call for changing your study's purpose, questions and/or methods.
  - Examples may include: shortage or empirical data to support your hypotheses (though theoretical support should exist, or you should develop it), or the restrictions of descriptive, correlational or causal research.