WK6 Research and Data Collections Methods

1. **State your course research project’s specific research question.**

How has the involvement and the successes of the United Nations mission in Somalia fueled the creation of the terrorist organization Al-Shabab?

**2.      State whether your project would be more suitable for a qualitative, quantitative, or**

**mixed methods approach.**

As a quantitative approach or the qualitative approach, by itself, is inadequate, the mixedmethod is more suitable due to the use of multiple sources that yield data on how the involvement of the United Nations unintentionally cause the creation of a terror organization. As the use of mixed method allows the development, a case study and relative importance of foreign involvement in a nation’s affairs can produce undesired results. To support the data generated by qualitative research, a descriptive design will quantify impacts of other United Nation missions in the region.

1. **If you choose a quantitative approach, what type of sampling procedure would you use and how many and what length of observational research periods would you conduct?**

To avoid non-sampling errors bias, questionnaire design flaws and error in analyzing the data, the probability sample would be more suited for my research subject. The study length of study would timeframe to analyze events leading to the civil war which resulted in the collapse government in 1991 and broken down to cover the timeframes of foreign involvement

**b. If you would choose a qualitative approach, list your dependent and independent variables from your course research project’s hypothesis and provide a short explanation about how you would go about analyzing those variables.**

Dependent Variable:

If foreign intervention is required to combating armed opposition groups from within Somalia, then their presence will fuel the creation of terror organizations.

You do not have a clear DV. It should be one clear outcome and that is not what you are saying. Second you have to be able to clearly state what your IVs are within your paper. They are not operationalized.

Independent Variable 1: Foreign involvement in Somalian affairs.

Independent Variable 2: Factors that create terror organization in Somalia.

1. **What other qualitative approaches would be useful to your study? These could include content analysis, case studies, or any other of the approaches in your week’s material. Explain the value of this approach to your research objective.**

Of the qualitative approaches, unstructured interviewing and case studies are the two approaches that can prove to be useful. As unstructured interviews can yield conflict results, case studies will be the best approach to for research objective.

 Case study:Case study research presents a detailed analysis of a specific case. Unlike other approaches, which observe the entire group, case study method allows me to focuses on oneissue, activities, and responses to the involvement of the United Nations. The processes involved to compile a case study would be interdisciplinary and would require the application of different theories and techniques to develop a valid conclusion.

**3.     If you were going to conduct surveys, how would a survey contribute useful data for your course research project**?

To understand the implications of the involvement of the United Nations and impacts of Al-Shahab, a survey would contribute the following:

* characteristics of the large population by the different types of groups listed in 4b. These candid answers would provide more accurate data and a difference of options collected from these targets presenting clear observation of reality to draw a conclusion
* permits the collection of vast amount data within a controlled period that describe and indicate trends or consensus by having the ability to ask as many questions tailored to the project from different angles (e.g. economic, social).
* as the manner, the information is collected, the targeted group would have a sense of anonymity that would foster results that are more accurate.
* observation of participantsand samplingof target through a breakdown by region
1. **What is the population for your survey?**

To grasp the level of magnitude of the United Nations involvement in Somalia and how opposition groups use of terrorism, the population as a whole will have required to be surveyed.

1. **Provide a short discussion of how you would carry out such a survey**.

There are variety of ways to conduct a survey as each method has their own advantage and disadvantages and the method of execution can affect the response and the survey’s validity. In order to capture an in depth understanding of how the intervention of foreign influence can result in the creation of a terror organization, I would require the following:

* Select method of administering the survey (1 on1, group, social media or telephone)
* Identify the questions to target group(s) to answer
* Identify the audience
* Select the methodology for conducting the survey; identify the steps to take to conducting the survey; the required number of people to interview and tailor the forms for the data.
* Conduct the survey of each targeted group; based on the method, this can be through a combination that will allow a larger audience randomly selected.
* Analyze the data /responses from the targeted groups
* Report the results to communicate the findings that were used support the hypothesis. The report will indicate the purpose of the study, the findings and conclusion based on the data collected.
1. **What process must you use to conduct any research on human research subjects?**

Research conducted with the use human participants is overseen by the university's Institutional Review Board (IRB). The purpose of the IRB is to ensure scientific research are in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations Title 21, Volume 1. (CFR 21). The IRB ensures participants rights and welfare are protected in accordance with the law and not comprised by all means. Its purpose is to facilitate human subjects research and to ensure the rights and welfare of human subjects are protected during their participation.

The researcher must provide a statement to the application the university’sInstitutional Review Board (IRB) that explains the purpose and expected duration of the subject’s participation, to include a description of the procedures to be followed, and identification of any procedures that are experimental. The research also provides a proposal indicating the risk that subject(s) may be exposed to pre/post research. As the IRB ensures the subject(s) are protected and adequate treatment is properly given, the researcher must also disclose all possible advantageous to that may gained by participants. Studies that expose the subject(s) to risk, the investigator must articulate the procedures that explain the course of action when the subject requires medical treatment and if any compensation due to risk.

Unlike prior to the late 60’s, there were various research that raised ethical concerns. Over the course of the decade, many other organizations began to adapt standards were subjects were no longer used without prior consent and voluntarily when not adverse details are kept hidden from subjects.

**4.  Interviews or Focus Groups:**

**a. How would one or more interviews or focus groups contribute useful data for your course research project?**

Interviews and focus groups can provide an insight of how the local populace understand the research topic in the form of qualitative data that is in depth in text and not of numerical value. The data captured through this methodology may identify and kick start discussions that provide unknown ideas and life experiences because of the involvement of the United Nations and opposition groups that turn to terrorism as a modus operandi. Members or interviews of the local population that have been victim of Al-Shahab or living under their control would also contribute that can support my research project and can shed light if effort yielding any gain or losses.

 **b. Who would you want in your interviews or focus groups (what types of people as far as backgrounds, experience, education, etc.)?**

 The interview focus groups would consist of the local population, members of terror the organization, local government, and representatives of foreign institutions such as the United Nations and its partners. The survey protocol would call for five (5) different focus groups; most with a connection to the local populations and those in key positions understanding of the geopolitical and threat of terror organizations. To ensure the data is to be statistically significant in value, a dual survey mode of in-person interviews and polls would be best to collect the survey data. The level of education among the population would be expected to be similar but not identical due to affiliations.

 **c. What data could interviews or more focus groups contribute to your course research data collection that could not have been collected using intensive interviews?**

Focus group monitored by a moderator providesconsensus like results unlike in an intensive interview; responses are of the interviewee. Answers collected from an interview, offer substantive in-depth answers that may not be able to be produced within a focus group. When participants interviewed as a group, the interaction requires team work though active discussion, calls for brainstorming in order to yield a general consensus. Through this, participants are also able to allow their creativity to be captured.

Variables need to be a bit more clear. You need to effectively lay out how they be measured