**ScWk 240 Article Critique Assignment**

**Due at the beginning of class on 11/14/12**

**The purpose of the Article Critique assignment is to:**

* Go through the process of thinking critically about the merits and faults within the assigned article.
* Give you practice in applying your knowledge about the research methods you have learned about in the course**.**
* Assess your competencies in research method content and critical thinking.

**Assignment Directions:**

The assigned article:

Ginsburg, L. R. Lewis, S., Zackheim, L., & Casebeer, A. (2007). Revisiting interaction in

knowledge translation. *Implementation Science, 2*(34) doi:10.1186/1748-5908-2-34

Please write a 3 to 4 page paper (not including title page) that addresses the following questions:

1. **Literature review**. Do you now understand this topic and know why more information is needed on it? Why or why not? Consider things like:

* The depth (i.e. the details) and breadth (i.e. the overview) in the literature review.
* The adequacy of the rationale for why this study was needed.

1. **Methods**. Do you think the components of the methods listed below were the best suited in answering the study’s research questions? Why or why not? Address each of the following elements:
   1. **Research design**. Consider:

* The authors’ explanation for their chosen research design
* Any alternative designs that would be better suited
  1. **Sampling methods**. Consider:
* Recruitment methods,
* Response rate,
* Types of participants (any one left out?)
  1. **Types of data and data collection methods**. Consider:
* Ability of the data to answer the research questions
* Adequacy of the data collection methods in ensuring reliable and credible data

1. **Results, discussion and implications**. Do you think this study’s findings fill a gap in the knowledge base on this topic? Why or why not. Do you think the study’s findings have relevance for practice and policy in this area? Why or why not. Consider:

* What new information did this study produce?
* How important do you think this new information is in terms of its impact on practice and policy in this topic area?

1. **Directions for future research.** Do you think the directions for future research outlined in the article will help improve on this study and move the field forward with respect to this topic? Why or why not. Consider:

* The specificity of the authors’ recommendations for future research
* The originality of the authors’ recommendations for future research
* Your own ideas for future research

**Tips:**

* Be sure to explain the reasons for your opinions.
* Whenever possible, provide examples from the article to support your conclusions.
* If you find fault in an area of the article, consider an alternative approach that would improve the methods.

**FYI:**

**Definitions of “critique” include:**

* A critical review or commentary
* A detailed analysis and assessment of something
* A method of disciplined, systematic analysis of a written or oral discourse
* Involves identifying both strengths and faults