

Table 1: Research Paradigms – Major Issues

	Positivism	Postpositivism	Interpretivism
Ontology (Nature of Reality)	External to human mind	External to human mind	Socially constructed
Epistemology (Knowledge and relation of knower to known)	Find universals- Investigator and investigated are independent of each other	Find universals - Independence is not possible but objectivity is the goal	Reflect understanding from interaction of investigator and subject
Acceptable Methods & data	*Scientific method *Objective data *Quantitative	*Scientific method *Objective data *Quantitative and qualitative	*Subjective and objective research methods *Qualitative

(All rows and columns from Willis (2007), *Foundations of Qualitative Research*, Table 3.1, Table 3.2, and Table 4.1. Some information also from Pickard (2013), *Research Methods in Information*, Table 1.1.)

Table Source: Schroeder, R. (2014). Exploring Critical and Indigenous Research Methods with a Research Community: Part II – The Landing. *In the Library with the Lead Pipe*, December 2. <http://www.inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2014/exploring-the-landing/>