Assignment 1 – What is Action Research?

The goal of this assignment is to learn about action research—its historical foundations, its goals and purposes, and its stages.

Part 1 Reading: The purpose of the reading is to introduce you to action research.
- Read Chapter 1 (pages 1–21) of Mills (2007).

Part 2 Reflection: The purpose of the writing is to think about the goals and purposes of action research.
- Answer item 1 from the section For Further Thought on page 20 in Mills (2007). In particular, compare and contrast the purpose(s) of action research and the purpose(s) of educational research as studied in MED 600. Your response should be brief (between 150 and 250 words).

Part 3 Stages of Action Research: The purpose of this task is to think about the general stages of action research.
According to Mills (2007) the four stages of action research are:
1. Identify an area of focus
2. Collect data
3. Analyze and interpret data
4. Develop an action plan
Select one of the following options:
- Option A: Read an action research report (see http://arexpeditions.montana.edu/docs/articles.php for some possibilities).
  - Identify and briefly summarize the stages of the action research presented in the report.
- Option B: Read a professional article of interest (see Course Materials for some possibilities).
  - Identify a possible area of focus inspired by the article. Briefly summarize ways to collect data, analyze and interpret the data, and a possible action plan resulting from the action research.
Your response (to either option) should be brief (between 150 and 250 words).

Format Requirements
- Please submit your answer to item 1 (Part 2) and either Option A or Option B (Part 3). Your response should be typed and double-spaced in an appropriate font.
- Please include a cover page with your name, the date, the course number and credit number, the assignment number, and your current area of focus.
- The file name for your assignment should be Assign01.Name where Name is your last name (e.g., Assign01.Powers)
- You may submit the assignment via Blackboard or e-mail.
## Assignment Rubric

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<td>Did not address any aspect of the prompt in a satisfactory way.</td>
<td>Addresses some but not all aspects of the prompt in a mostly satisfactory way.</td>
<td>Address some but not all aspects of the prompt in a satisfactory way.</td>
<td>Addresses all aspects of the prompt, but some aspects are unsatisfactory.</td>
<td>Addresses all aspects of the prompt in a mostly satisfactory way.</td>
<td>Addresses all aspects of the prompt in a satisfactory way.</td>
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Satisfactory work includes:
- Completing the task on time
- Writing is clear and unambiguous
- Terminology is consistent with the course materials
- Answers are well-thought
- Answers are factually correct
- Opinions are supported by reason