

# Generating and Developing a Research Idea

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Graduate Student Professional Development Seminar

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# Generating and Developing a Research Idea

Economic research follows the scientific method.

So, a research contribution is contributing to a part of the scientific method.

Ideas come from improving and perfecting parts of the scientific method.

# The Scientific Method

Step 1: Initial observation

newspaper, TV, chat with friends, empirical puzzles

Step 2: Theorizing (modeling)

journal article, MWG

Step 3: Identification of additional implications

Step 4: Further observation and testing

more closely examine the model you wrote

Step 5: Refinement of the theory

your own theory or others' theories

**\* Connect to one strand of literature: what's your contribution?**