



SCIENCES

SOCIAL SCIENCES

HUMANITIES

GOAL	Understanding the physical universe	Understanding human behavior	Understanding human experience and meaning
METHOD	Scientific method: controlled variables; inductive reasoning; discussion.	Scientific method - but with uncontrolled variables.	Critical analysis, interpretation; inductive reasoning; discussion.
ASSUMPTION	Objective reality is knowable, quantifiable through controlled, objective observation.	Human behavior can be scientifically studied.	There is no truly objective point of view. Reality is always already filtered through psyche, culture, language, ideas, beliefs.
WHAT CONSTITUTES PROOF?	Reproducibility	Reproducibility (statistical)	Persuasion; reasonableness; usefulness
WRITING	Non-argumentative, inductive writing strictly cordons fact from analysis. Commonly uses passive voice to indicate objectivity.	Same as Sciences.	Analytical argument provides deductive structure for paper; facts presented only as they serve this analysis.