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Exploring Research (8th Edition)



Synopsis

Presents the basics of research in the social and behavioral sciences in an informative and student-friendly way. Salkind's Exploring Research, 8th edition makes research methods accessible for students. Exploring Research provides an introduction to research methods through a friendly, approachable writing style. Salkind describes how to collect and analyze data and provides thorough instruction on how to prepare and write a research proposal and manuscript. The text explores the use of electronic sources (the Internet) as a means to enhance research skills and includes discussions about scientific methods. The most common types of research models in the social and behavioral sciences are incorporated, including qualitative methods. Salkind covers the research process, problem selection, sampling and generalizability, as well as a discussion of the measurement process.

Teaching & Learning Experience

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Customer Reviews

Having previously purchased a required research textbook that was written in a truly "mind-numbing" fashion, I went online to find a supplemental text. I was looking for something to help me develop some background knowledge in order to better understand my assigned readings. I consider myself very lucky for having found "Exploring Research". The writing style is very straightforward. I was easily able to read the textbook within a few days, and this made understanding the assigned readings in my course textbook much easier to do. Easy to understand charts are used to illustrate points and organize the information. Practical resources are given to assist in developing a Literature Review. Rather than simply telling the reader to read a research study "critically", the author provides a list of specific questions an introductory student can ask themselves for each section of a report being read. As a supplemental text for the beginning student, this book is a wonderful resource for making sense of the basic research concepts. Chapters include: The Role and Importance of Research The Research Process: Coming to Terms Selecting a Problem and Reviewing the Research Sampling and Generalizability Measurement, Reliability, and Validity Methods of Measuring Behavior Data Collection and Descriptive Statistics Introducing Inferential Statistics Nonexperimental Research: Descriptive and Correlational Methods Nonexperimental Research: Qualitative Methods Pre- and True Experimental Research Methods Quasi-Experimental Research: A Close Cousin to Experimental Research Writing a Research Proposal Writing a Research Manuscript

Regardless of what your research needs are, this book could be called "research for dummies" in its excellent and easy-to-follow explanations. Buy this book, even if your required text is something else - It's filled with examples and can be read like an adventure novel in bed WHILE being truly comprehended! I've taken statistics, research classes, etc. - I wished I had read this book along with my first class! There's nothing dry about this and 1000 words are too few to praise it adequately!

This text explains concepts well for the most part and offers a lot of practical examples to solidify the concepts. However, there are several MAJOR errors throughout the book that could cause a lot of confusion. There are several instances in this book where value ranges are listed as 21.00 to 11.00 and they should actually read -1.0 to +1.0. This is a major oversight. There are a few other errors that create contradictory information, an example is on page 275 in the results section. Readers should beware of these errors and be sure to correct mistakes found while learning the topics. In addition, some terms are not explained very well or no actual definition is given. While discussing it, the author just gives an example and in some cases it is hard to generalize the term based on that example. A new version is set to come out this year and I hope these errors are corrected but I suggest that students scrutinize what they read and question things that don't make sense as the errors have tended to carry over from edition to edition.

For being about a topic that really makes my head spin (statistics and research) It was actually not bad. It helped me wrap my head around the topic, was easy to follow and gave good examples. Would recommend it for a more artistic person having to thread through a statistics class.

While this book is written in a very "user-friendly" style, the amount of typographical, stylistic, and grammatical errors is incredibly distracting! For a book that's supposed to discuss the precision of research methodology, it certainly has a long way to go in being accurate. It seems that on almost every page there is a typographical or grammatical error, which is completely unacceptable in a professional resource (even if it is targeted towards "beginners"). There are a couple of chapters in which entire sections seem been left out and others that are very sloppily edited. Surely the author could have forked over a couple hundred bucks to get a professional (or even a half-intelligent grad student!) to proofread it. It is in its seventh edition, after all. If copious amounts of unprofessional errors irritate you in a textbook, avoid this one.

I had to purchase this textbook for SFL 290 at BYU Provo. This text was a great resource guide for Research! It has helped me with many assignments this semester and I am sure it will continue to be a help through my entire academic career and beyond.

For a book that is supposed to be read as part of a Master's curriculum, this book was lacking. Typographical errors, sloppy layout and not reader friendly. The writer seems to do well

because such books are made required reading by other professors. A typical book in 'paper mill' programs that require square filling.

An interesting lower level research methods text that lends well to an online course level use with first level graduate students. It is organized nicely and lends itself to a splitting up of its chapters... easy to read with lots of examples.

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