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# Applied Social Research A Tool For The Human Services

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## DUNCAN CARLSON

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### Doing Excellent Social Research with Documents SAGE

Publications, Incorporated

In today's society we increasingly create and consume written content and images. This includes a range of sources, from social media posts to records held within organisations, and everything in between, including news articles, blogs, shopping lists and official government documents. Critically reading these 'documents' can help us to understand a huge amount about society. *Doing Excellent Social Research with Documents* includes guidance on how to 'read between the lines', and provides an overview of six research projects which use documents as data. The substantive chapters are organised in two sections, with each chapter focused on a specific type of data. Section one focuses on documents that are found in isolation from their authors, including official and historical documents, traditional media, diaries and online content. Section two focuses on using documents in addition to existing data from primary research, including the role of documents in ethnography and visual

research methods. In each chapter, you will be guided through the process of: Developing research questions, and how this impacts on which documents are selected; Considering aspects of bias and quality within the documentary sources; Undertaking analysis using six different strategies including thematic analysis, framework analysis, content analysis, discourse analysis and narrative analysis. Drawing on research projects which reflect real world situations, you will be methodically guided through the research process in detail, enabling you to examine and understand the practices and value of a range of documentary analysis approaches. *Doing Excellent Social Research with Documents* is a practical how-to guide for students (final year undergraduates onwards) and researchers using documents as data.

### Key Concepts in Social Research Cengage Learning

Praise for earlier editions: "I have been using this textbook as a required reading for my research class since 2004 because I found the text's coverage of research concepts to be in-depth, and easy to read without the technicalities." - Ziblim Abukari, PhD, MSW, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Westfield State University "Applied Social Research... is thorough, well organized, and clear, making it highly appreciated by my

students.” -Barry Loneck, PhD, School of Social Welfare, SUNY Albany The tenth edition of this classic text demonstrates how research skills are developed and used to facilitate best social work practices and improve client outcomes. New to this edition are additional examples and practitioner profiles demonstrating research-based practice, problem-solving extended vignettes, and broad inclusion of the 2015 CSWE competencies. The tenth edition also delivers directives for incorporating evidence-based practices into daily practice. Additional highlights include greater emphasis on conducting practice-informed research with minority and other disadvantaged populations. This engaging text for MSW and BSW students helps readers develop logic-based research skills that prepare them to be scientific practitioners who can use research-informed practice to improve clients’ lives. Emphasized throughout is the application of research methods in assessing and monitoring client functioning and outcomes. Additional features include robust instructor resources. The print version of the book includes free, searchable, digital access to the entire contents! New to the Tenth Edition: Practitioner Profiles recounting interviews with actual practitioners Evaluating Competency boxes highlighting the connections between text concepts and CSWE competencies Emphasis on conducting research with disadvantaged populations Enhanced instructor resources including updated test bank with multiple-choice, short answer, and essay questions, and PowerPoints Key Features: Demonstrates the crucial connection between research and practice to improve client outcomes Develops critical thinking and logic-based research skills Helps students to measure and monitor client functions and outcomes and critically evaluate practices, programs, and services Emphasizes scaling measures to assess client functioning Includes unique chapter on preparing and presenting data

**Survey Research Methods** SAGE Publications

The Fifth Edition of Floyd J. Fowler Jr.'s bestselling Survey Research Methods presents the very latest methodological knowledge on surveys. Offering a sound basis for evaluating how each aspect of a survey can affect its precision, accuracy, and credibility, the book guides readers through each step of the survey research process. This fully updated edition addresses the growth of the Internet for data collection and the subsequent rapid expansion of online survey usage, the precipitous drop in response rates for telephone surveys, the continued improvement in techniques for pre-survey evaluation of questions, and the growing role of individual cell phones in addition to--and often instead of--household landlines. Throughout the book, the author puts the profound changes taking place in the survey research world today into perspective, helping researchers learn how to best use new and traditional options for collecting data.

**Focus Groups** SAGE

Applied Social Research: A Tool for the Human Services Cengage Learning

**Applied Social Psychology** Cambridge University Press

Presenting social science research methods within the context of human service practice, APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH is the ideal text for courses focused on applied research in human services, counseling, social work, sociology, criminal justice, and community planning. With in-depth coverage of all the topics taught in traditional social science research methods courses, APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH brings the subject to life by showing how research is increasingly used in practice today. In addition, this fully updated edition includes a thought-provoking Eye on Ethics feature and new and revised Research in Practice vignettes. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in

the ebook version.

**Applied Research Design** Wadsworth Publishing Company  
You may be wondering why you need to study research methods to prepare yourself for a career in human services. This accessible text will help you to better understand the connection between human service research and practice. APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH brings the subject to life and explores how recent innovations in technology are affecting research methods and results.

**Focus Groups in Social Research** SAGE Publications

This volume explores the scientific frontiers and leading edges of research across the fields of anthropology, economics, political science, psychology, sociology, history, business, education, geography, law, and psychiatry, as well as the newer, more specialized areas of artificial intelligence, child development, cognitive science, communications, demography, linguistics, and management and decision science. It includes recommendations concerning new resources, facilities, and programs that may be needed over the next several years to ensure rapid progress and provide a high level of returns to basic research.

**Scale Development** Cambridge University Press

The SAGE Handbook of Applied Social Research Methods, Second Edition provides students and researchers with the most comprehensive resource covering core methods, research designs, and data collection, management, and analysis issues. This thoroughly revised edition continues to place critical emphasis on finding the tools that best fit the research question given the constraints of deadlines, budget, and available staff. Each chapter offers key guidance on how to make intelligent and conscious tradeoffs so that one can refine and hone the research question as new knowledge is gained, unanticipated obstacles are encountered, or contextual shifts take place - all key elements in the iterative nature of applied research. Each chapter has been enhanced pedagogically to include more step-by-step procedures, specific, rich yet practical examples from various settings to illustrate the method, parameters to define when the method is most appropriate and when it is not appropriate, and greater use of visual aids (graphs, models, tip boxes) to provide teaching and learning tools. - twenty core chapters written by research experts that cover major methods and data analysis issues across the social and behavioral sciences, education, and management; - emphasis on applying research techniques, particularly in "real-world" settings in which there are various data, money, time, and political constraints; - new chapters on mixed methods, qualitative comparative analysis, concept mapping, and internet data collection; - a newly developed section that serves as a guide for students who are navigating through the book and attempting to translate the chapters into action; - a new Instructor's Resources CD, with relevant journal articles, test questions, and exercises to aid the instructor in developing appropriate course materials.

**Understanding and Managing Social Problems** Cengage Learning

This student-friendly introduction to the field focuses on understanding social and practical problems and developing intervention strategies to address them. Offering a balance of theory, research, and application, the updated Third Edition includes the latest research, as well as new, detailed examples of qualitative research throughout.

**Applied Social Research: A Tool for the Human Services**

Cambridge Scholars Publishing

This textbook provides a clear, concise, and comprehensive introduction to methodological issues encountered by the various social science disciplines. It emphasizes applications, with detailed examples, so that readers can put these methods to work in their research. Within a unified framework, John Gerring

and Dino Christenson integrate a variety of methods - descriptive and causal, observational and experimental, qualitative and quantitative. The text covers a wide range of topics including research design, data-gathering techniques, statistics, theoretical frameworks, and social science writing. It is designed both for those attempting to make sense of social science, as well as those aiming to conduct original research. The text is accompanied by online practice questions, exercises, examples, and additional resources, including related readings and websites. An essential resource for undergraduate and postgraduate programs in communications, criminal justice, economics, business, finance, management, education, environmental policy, international development, law, political science, public health, public policy, social work, sociology, and urban planning.

*The SAGE Handbook of Applied Social Research Methods* SAGE Qualitative Research Design: An Interactive Approach, Second Edition provides researchers and students with a user-friendly, step-by-step guide to planning qualitative research. A bestseller in its First Edition, this invaluable book presents an innovative approach to the components of design and how they interact with each other. The text presents a clear strategy for creating coherent and workable relationships among these design components and highlights key design issues. Based on a course the author taught for seven years at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, the work is written in an informal, jargon-free style and incorporates many examples and hands-on exercises.

*Theory and Practice* SAGE

Publisher description

**Tool for the Human Services** Pine Forge Press

With the primary objective of raising ethical sensibility, this volume details the ethical problems and dilemmas faced by applied social science researchers. Issues such as the use of deception, the participant's right to privacy and informed consent, and the potential harm of public disclosure are confronted. The author discusses the need to review ethical problems and their implications in the context of current ethical standards in both society and the scientific community. Case studies illustrate unanticipated ethical dilemmas which might emerge during a research project. Issues are presented and interpreted clearly so that their complexity can be penetrated and potential solutions envisioned. The volume also includes specific methodolo

*A Practical Guide* SAGE Publications, Incorporated

Brings together international scholars across the social and behavioural sciences and education to address those ethical issues that arise in the theory and practice of research within the technologically advancing and culturally complex world in which we live.

**Applied Social Network Analysis With R: Emerging Research and Opportunities** John Wiley & Sons

"Essentials of Social Research is a well-balanced and engaging treatment of the many facets of doing research. Capturing a trend toward the use of multiple methods and perspectives, the authors weave theoretical insights with interesting findings and applications on a variety of topics. Their use of common examples from one chapter to the next is an innovative way of conveying the value of a multi-method approach to inquiry. And, they let us in on a secret shared by many researchers, which is that research is fun and we enjoy doing it. There is something here for students across the spectrum of the social and behavioural sciences." Daniel Druckman, George Mason University and the University of Queensland, Australia "Clearly written, well-thought out and logically organized, the book is an ideal text for all undergraduate courses. ... I particularly like the

book's thoughtful discussion of the quantitative/qualitative debate. The authors are even-handed about the strengths and weaknesses of the methods, noting that each is appropriate some of the time, neither is appropriate all of the time and the best empirical research often combines the approaches. ... Finally, the application problems at the end of each chapter are so well thought out that a faculty member need not spend hours developing the basic homework assignments and can focus on designing appropriate research project for the students." Helen Roland, University of California, USA What is meant by 'the scientific method'? How do I go about collecting data? Should I use qualitative methods, quantitative methods, or both? Essentials of Social Research is an introductory text designed to provide straightforward, clear answers to the key questions students have about research methods. Written for those with no prior background in social research methodology, it covers the fundamentals of social research, including: types of research, reasoning and data, basic logic of quantitative and qualitative inquiry, major data collection strategies, and the assessment of research findings. In addition, this handy guide: Offers ongoing exercises to illustrate the text material Covers basic critical thinking skills Emphasizes the complementary contributions of quantitative and qualitative methods Provides examples of research from published literature Essentials of Social Research is key reading for all undergraduate social scientists undertaking research.

**Tools for the Human Services and Education** Springer

"This clearly written and user-friendly book is ideal for students or researchers who wish to get a basic, but solid grasp of a topic and see how it fits with other topics. By following the links a student can easily and efficiently build up a clear conceptual map of social research" - Malcolm Williams, Reader in Sociology, Cardiff University "This is a really useful book, written in an accessible manner for students beginning their study of social research methods. It is helpful both as an introductory text and as a reference guide for more advanced students. Most of the key topics in methods and methodology are covered and it will be suitable as a recommended text on a wide variety of courses" - Clive Seale, Brunel University At last, an authoritative, crystal-clear introduction to research methods which really takes account of the needs of students for accessible, focused information to help with undergraduate essays and exams. The key concepts discussed here are based on a review of teaching syllabi and the authors' experience of many years of teaching. Topics range over qualitative and quantitative approaches and combine practical considerations with philosophical issues. They include several new topics, like internet and phone polling, internet searches, and visual methods. Each section is free-standing, can be tackled in order, but with links to other sections to enable students to cross-reference and build up a wider understanding of central research methods. To facilitate comprehension and aid study, each section begins with a definition. It is followed by a summary of key points with key words and guides to further reading and up-to-date examples. The book is a major addition to undergraduate reading lists. It is reliable, allows for easy transference to essays and exams and easy to use, and exceptionally clearly written for student consumption. The book answers the needs of all those who find research methods daunting, and for those who have dreamt of an ideal introduction to the subject.

*Qualitative Research Design* SAGE Publications

Presenting the methods of social science research within the context of human service practice, the Fifth Edition of APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH is ideal for courses emphasizing applied research in human services, sociology, social work, criminal

justice, counseling, and community planning. In this revised edition, the authors show research and human service practice as allies bound by common goals of advancing knowledge and creating a better world. Covering the full range of topics included in traditional social science research methods courses, the book devotes considerable attention to both qualitative and quantitative research methods. Used at the undergraduate and graduate levels, this popular text explores the growing diversity of ways in which research is applied to practice and the extensive links between research and practice.

**Emerging Research and Opportunities** Routledge  
Essential management guidance for real-world applied research projects *Managing Applied Social Research* equips you with the skills, strategies, and knowledge you need to effectively manage research projects. Written by a team of nationally-known researchers, this book covers the systematic management of applied social research studies from 'soup to nuts,' providing researchers with an easy-to-follow process and the tools and templates for improving the quality, ethical conduct, and usefulness of the final products. The authors merge expertise adapted from the field of project management with their decades of experience in using established research methodologies and practices to offer readers; practical examples and insights gleaned from major research houses such as Rand, Urban Institute, Mathematica, American Institutes for Research, and others. Key concepts and methodologies are systematically unpacked, with detailed discussion of both theoretical bases and practical applications in the field. Written in plain English, the case studies and vignettes illustrate typical approaches to different scenarios, and the checklists, templates, and other tools provide guides for action. Starting from basic social research

strategies, you'll build an understanding of applied research issues and how projects are best managed in a messy, imperfect world. From conceptualization and proposal through implementation, analysis, and reporting, this book helps you lead your projects to success. Learn the skills and concepts necessary to effectively manage applied research projects for the social science disciplines Anticipate and prepare for common challenges and obstacles Understand the various roles and their requisite tasks and responsibilities Learn strategies for making effective decisions about a study's scope, work, schedule, people, budget, and risks during each phase of the research study Social science research is an essential well of information upon which society is run. Proper management is the key to any research project's success, and success becomes more critical in the field given the potential ramifications in terms of policy and its effects on real, everyday people. *Managing Applied Social Research* provides sound guidance and expert insight with an essential real-world focus.

*Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis* Springer Publishing Company

"This book offers readers the best of both worlds: technical sophistication coupled with user-friendly, practical information for doing meta-analysis." -- Page 4 of cover.

*A Tool for the Human Services* Applied Social Research: A Tool for the Human Services

Providing researchers with a practical and accessible advice, the Fourth Edition of the lauded *Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis* offers thoroughly updated information. Author Harris M. Cooper draws on more than 30 years of experience to show readers how to conduct a comprehensive synthesis of past research.

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