Advanced Survey Data Analysis for Categorical and Rating Scale Data

EPSY 5245

Spring Semester, 2018 – TENTATIVE

Tuesdays, 4:40-7:20

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| Instructor: Michael C. Rodriguez | Classroom: Peik Hall 315 |
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| Email: mcrdz@umn.edu | Office Hours: Class Tuesdays 2:00-4:00  or by appointment |
| Web: http://www.edmeasurement.net |

**Course Goals**

Students will be able to:

* Understand the unique characteristics of survey data;
* Distinguish between the statistical characteristics of interval and ordinal/nominal data;
* Analyze ordinal and nominal data in appropriate ways;
* Interpret results from survey data analyses appropriately;
* Develop reasonable and useful analysis plans for future survey projects;
* Identify appropriate and inappropriate uses and interpretations of survey data analysis results.

**Course Outline, Topics & Assignments (readings listed at class website)**

February 6: A basis for survey data analysis

Levels of measurement and intended inferences

Nominal & Ordinal Data

February 20: Multivariate Methods, Factor Analysis, Cluster Analysis

Assignment 1 Due

February 27: Rasch Scaling of Ordinal Data

Assignment 2 Due

March 20: Multilevel modeling for survey data

Continuous Data

Assignment 3 Due

March 27: Presenting Results, Appropriate Inferences

AERA Standards

April 3 (no class): Assignment 4 Due

**Readings**:

Belia, S., Fidler, F., Williams, J., & Cumming, G. (2005). Researchers misunderstand confidence intervals and standard error bars. *Psychological Methods, 10*(4), 389-396.

Bode, R.K. (1995, April). *Using Rasch to create measures from survey data*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the AERA, San Francisco, CA.

Borgen, F.H., & Barnett, D.C. (1987). Applying cluster analysis in counseling psychology research. *Journal of Counseling Psychology, 34*(4), 456-468.

Dowd, A.C., & Duggan, M.B. (2001, March). *Computing variances from data with complex sampling designs: A comparison of Stata and SPSS*. Paper presented to the North American Stata Users Group.

Goldstein, H. (1991). Multilevel modeling of survey data. *The Statistician, 40*, 235-244.

Hobson, K.A., Roy, A.R., & Coryn, C.L.S. (2013). *Influences of hierarchical linear modeling in evaluation* [Unpublished presentation]. Kalamazoo, MI: Western Michigan University.

Lane, D.M., & Sándor, A. (2009). Designing better graphs by including distributional information and integrating words, numbers, and images. *Psychological Methods, 14*(3), 239-257.

Nardi, P.M. (2003). *Doing Survey Research: A Guide to Quantitative Methods*. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Reeve, B.B., & Fayers, P. (2005). Applying item response theory modeling for evaluating questionnaire item and scale properties. In P.M. Fayers & R.D. Hays (Eds.), *Assessing quality of life in clinical trials: Methods and practice* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

SPSS. (2003). *How to get more value from your survey data*. Chicago, IL: Author.

SPSS. (2007). *Correctly compute complex samples statistics: SPSS complex samples 16.0 specifications*. Chicago, IL: Author.

Trigwell, K., Prosser, M., & Waterhouse, F. (1999). Relations between teachers’ approaches to teaching and students’ approaches to learning. *Higher Education, 37*, 57-90.

Tsikriktsis, N. (2005). A review of techniques for treating missing data in OM survey research. *Journal of Operations Management, 24*, 53-62.

Wech, B.A., & Heck, A.L. (2004). An introduction to hierarchical linear modeling for marketing researchers. *Marketing Bulletin, 15*, 1-8.

Woltman, H., Feldstain, A., MacKay, J.C., & Rocchi, M. (2012). An introduction to hierarchical linear modeling. *Tutorials in Quantitative Methods for Psychology, 8*(1), 52-69.

**Course Description**

This course will enable students to understand the principles and methods of survey data analysis. It is designed as an extension of the Survey Design course (EPSY 5244), as well as the statistics course which introduces ordinal data analysis (e.g., chi-square tests). Students will engage in survey data analysis exercises, use real data from several large survey programs, and review current literature on survey data analysis.

The course will include a mix of instructional strategies, including lecture, small group work, and computer demonstrations. Small group and individual exercises will be used to practice methods learned in the course, as described below.

**Evaluation of Student Performance**

Analysis projects will be required to assess student achievement of the above objectives. These projects include the following: (1) Analysis of nominal and ordinal data; (2) Examining relations among multiple indicators (multivariate data); (3) Rasch scaling exercise; and (4) Final project. A more detailed description of each task will be provided on the day each assignment is assigned. Data will be provided for the exercises but students are encouraged to use their own data. The first three assignments can be done with a partner, no more than 2 persons in a single group. Each assignment (1-3) is worth 20 points; the final project is worth 40 points. The total number of points is 100 for the course.

A detailed final project description will be provided in class. It will include the description of an analysis plan, the methods section of a report describing the analysis methods, and an analysis of existing data or the student’s own data with appropriate graphical displays. Final Projects must be completed within one week following the final class session.

Each assignment can be submitted twice for full credit.

***Instruction*:**

Each course meeting will include lecture on key points of the day's topic(s) and a period of questions and answers. Many of the sessions will include time to debate issues and challenge assumptions raised by students, the instructor, and the text author. Several sessions will include small group work (e.g., time to review text book material and others presented in class). As the instructor, I assume the following responsibilities: to present material in a clear and contextualized format, to provide opportunity for students to pursue additional clarification in and out of class, to develop and employ fair and meaningful assessment activities, to use results of evaluation activities for instructional feedback and course planning, and to provide opportunities for recourse if students believe they have been unfairly evaluated.

***Technology*:**

Technology is becoming increasingly important in education and we will pursue learning with the aid of technology in several ways. Students will be allowed to submit projects electronically. Students are encouraged to investigate survey-related web sites to support their reading and project work. A page of links to additional readings and resources is provided at the class website. During discussions of sampling and data analysis, computer demonstrations will be conducted in class to illustrate various topics. At least one class session will be held in a computer lab to conduct hands-on computing using software to complete the sampling and data analysis exercises.

***Diversity*:**

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to have every course contribute to our understanding of diversity, including but not limited to: age, creed, disability, ethnicity, gender, global perspectives, international background, language background, learning differences, marital status, multicultural perspectives, national origin, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, and veteran status. Each of these characteristics plays a role in educational and psychological measurement and research. They are factors that contribute to individual and group differences -- they (may) affect the constructs we set out to measure and the way we interpret and report survey results. These issues will be addressed throughout the course and will be used as topics of debate and considerations of selecting survey methods to understand the role of group differences in evaluating survey results.

### Late Work and Incompletes

No points will be deducted for late work. It is up to you to stay on track. An incomplete (I) will be assigned only if agreed to prior to the last week of class. If at the end of the semester course work is incomplete and no prior notification has been given, the grade based on points obtained at that time will be awarded. No options will be given at that point to submit incomplete work.

**Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences:**

Students will not be penalized for absence during the semester. For complete information about the university absence policy, please see: <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/MAKEUPWORK.html>.

### Returning Papers, Exams, and Projects

Given the size of the class and the extensiveness of student projects, I will try to return work within one week of the due date. If necessary, you may pick up work prior to the following class period if agreed upon. If, at the end of the semester, you would like to receive remaining work through U.S. mail, submit a self-addressed stamped envelope. Otherwise, you may pick up final projects once grades are submitted in the Psychological Foundations’ office in 250 Education Sciences Building with a student ID. Papers will be available there until February 1. Uncollected papers will be destroyed just prior to fall semester the following year.

**Academic dishonesty**: academic dishonesty in any portion of the academic work for a course shall be grounds for awarding a grade of F or N for the entire course.

**University Grading Policy**

<https://policy.umn.edu/education/gradingtranscripts>

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| A | 4.000 - Represents achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements |
| B | 3.000 - Represents achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements |
| C | 2.000 - Represents achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect |
| D | 1.000 - Represents achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements |
| S | Represents achievement that is satisfactory, which is equivalent to a C- or better. |

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| **Letter Grade** | **Percentage** |
| A | 95-100% |
| A- | 90-94.9% |
| B+ | 85-89.9% |
| B | 80-84.9% |
| B- | 75-79.9% |
| C+ | 70-74.9% |
| C | 65-69.9% |
| C- | 60-64.9% |

### How to Access Your Grades

Go to OneStop for Students (<http://onestop.umn.edu/onestop/>), click on Grades & Transcripts; on the right side under Quick Links, click on Grades/Unofficial transcript.

**Workload Expectation** (Policy: [Expected Student Academic Work per Credit](http://www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTWORK.html))

The Senate affirms the standard (first adopted by the University Senate on February 16, 1922, and reaffirmed 1993) that one semester credit is to represent, for the average University of Minnesota undergraduate student, three hours of academic work per week (including lectures, laboratories, recitations, discussion groups, field work, study, and so on), or approximately 45 hours of work over the course of an enrollment period. Expectations of faculty and students will be made clear. It is expected that the academic work required of graduate and professional students will exceed three hours per credit per week or 45 hours per semester.

**Scholastic Dishonesty**

You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis. (Student Conduct Code: <http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf>) If it is determined that a student has cheated, he or she may be given an "F" or an "N" for the course, and may face additional sanctions from the University. For additional information, please see: <http://policy.umn.edu/education/instructorresp>.

The Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity has compiled a useful list of Frequently Asked Questions pertaining to scholastic dishonesty: <http://www1.umn.edu/oscai/integrity/student/index.html>. If you have additional questions, please clarify with your instructor for the course. Your instructor can respond to your specific questions regarding what would constitute scholastic dishonesty in the context of a particular class-e.g., whether collaboration on assignments is permitted, requirements and methods for citing sources, if electronic aids are permitted or prohibited during an exam.

**University Policies**

See <http://onestop.umn.edu/onestop/faculty/Teaching/Policies.html> for a list of policies related to teaching with links to those policies.

Also see <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html> for University policies related to Teaching and Learning – Student Responsibilities.

**Student Conduct Code**

The University seeks an environment that promotes academic achievement and integrity, that is protective of free inquiry, and that serves the educational mission of the University. Similarly, the University seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation; that is respectful of the rights, opportunities, and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University; and that does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the University community.

As a student at the University you are expected adhere to Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code. To review the Student Conduct Code, please see: http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Student\_Conduct\_Code.pdf.

Note that the conduct code specifically addresses disruptive classroom conduct, which means "engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor's ability to teach or student learning. The classroom extends to any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements or related activities."

**Use of Personal Electronic Devices in the Classroom**

Using personal electronic devices in the classroom setting can hinder instruction and learning, not only for the student using the device but also for other students in the class. To this end, the University establishes the right of each faculty member to determine if and how personal electronic devices are allowed to be used in the classroom. <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>.

**Appropriate Student Use of Class Notes and Course Materials**

Taking notes is a means of recording information but more importantly of personally absorbing and integrating the educational experience. However, broadly disseminating class notes beyond the classroom community or accepting compensation for taking and distributing classroom notes undermines instructor interests in their intellectual work product while not substantially furthering instructor and student interests in effective learning. Such actions violate shared norms and standards of the academic community. <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>

**Sexual Harassment**

"Sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment in any University activity or program. Such behavior is not acceptable in the University setting. For additional information, please consult Board of Regents Policy: <http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/SexHarassment.pdf>

**Equity, Diversity, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action**

The University provides equal access to and opportunity in its programs and facilities, without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. For more information, please consult Board of Regents Policy: <http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Equity_Diversity_EO_AA.pdf>

**Disability Accommodations**

The University of Minnesota is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations. If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g., mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact Disability Resource Center at 612-626-1333 to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations. If you are registered with Disability Resource Center and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, please contact your instructor as early in the semester as possible to discuss how the accommodations will be applied in the course. <https://diversity.umn.edu/disability/>.

**Mental Health and Stress Management:**

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance and may reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you. You can learn more via the Student Mental Health Website: <http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu>.

**Academic Freedom and Responsibility:**

Academic freedom is a cornerstone of the University. Within the scope and content of the course as defined by the instructor, it includes the freedom to discuss relevant matters in the classroom and conduct relevant research. Along with this freedom comes responsibility. Students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth. Students are free to take reasoned exception to the views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.\* When conducting research, pertinent institutional approvals must be obtained and the research must be consistent with U. policies.

Reports of concerns about academic freedom are taken seriously. There are individuals/offices available for help. Contact the instructor, the Department Chair, your adviser, the associate dean of CEHD, or the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs in the Office of the Provost.

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| College of Education & Human Development Mission Statement The mission of the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development is to contribute to a just and sustainable future through engagement with the local and global communities to enhance human learning and development at all stages of the life span. Department of Educational Psychology Mission Statement Educational psychology involves the study of cognitive, emotional, and social learning processes that underlie education and human development across the lifespan. Research in educational psychology advances scientific knowledge of those processes and their application in diverse educational and community settings. The department provides training in the psychological foundations of education, research methods, and the practice and science of counseling psychology, school psychology, and special education. Faculty and students provide leadership and consultation to the state, the nation, and the international community in each area of educational psychology. The department’s scholarship and teaching enhance professional practice in schools and universities, community mental health agencies, business and industrial organizations, early childhood programs, and government agencies. Quantitative Methods in Education Mission Statement To prepare students to become cutting-edge professionals in educational measurement, evaluation, statistics, and statistics education, through excellence in teaching, research, and service; and through investigating and developing research methodology in education. |

**Six Intellectual Principles of Ph.D./Ed.D./Master’s Research Education**

(Currently under review)

1. *Scholarly Formation*
2. *Communication*
3. *Leadership and Collaborative Skills*
4. *Global Context*
5. *Professional Responsibility*
6. *Personal and Professional Management Skills*

***The College Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion:***

*We affirm the contributions of all people in our community. Diversity and equity are at the core of our mission in the College of Education and Human Development.*

*We explicitly reject bias, discrimination, and exclusion on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.*

*We all are responsible for recognizing, confronting, and addressing bias and discrimination and diligently working for positive change in support of equity and diversity.*