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Education : Research Methods in Education

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A Course in Rasch Measurement Theory

Measuring in the Educational, Social and Health Sciences

- Presents course material developed in two decades of online and intensive teaching
- Provides researchers with the confidence they need in order to be in control of the analysis and interpretation of data
- Provides a unified approach to instrument design, measurement theory and data analysis
- Uses Rasch measurement theory to assess the design and administration of measurement instruments

This book applies Rasch measurement theory to the fields of education, psychology, sociology, marketing and health outcomes in order to measure various social constructs. The chief focus is on first principles of both the theory and its applications. Because software is readily available to carry out analyses of real data, numerous small examples are provided in the book. The software used in these examples, and which is helpful in working through the text, is RUMM2030 (Rasch unidimensional models for measurement). The book's main goals are to equip researchers with the confidence they need in order to be in control of the analysis and interpretation of data, and to make professional rather than primarily statistical decisions mechanically. Because statistical principles are necessarily involved, reviews of the requisite statistics are provided in the Appendix. The content is based on courses that have been taught both online and in intensive form for over two decades. Although first principles are emphasised, much of the book is based on research conducted by the two authors and their colleagues.

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