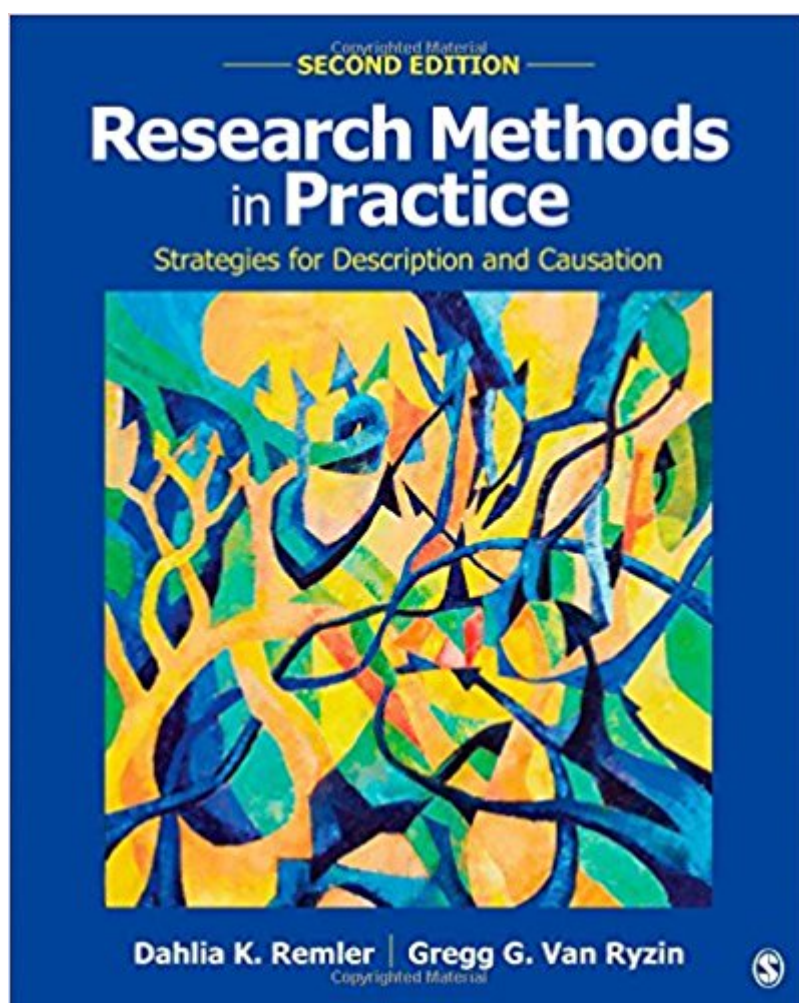




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Research Methods In Practice: Strategies For Description And Causation



Synopsis

The Second Edition of *Research Methods in Practice: Strategies for Description and Causation* sets an entirely new standard for presenting and learning research methods. The perspective gained from this text makes it a truly necessary tool for such applied disciplines as public affairs and administration, public policy, psychology, urban affairs, education, sociology, social work, business, public health, political science, economics, communications and criminal justice. Imbued with a deep commitment to make social and policy research methods accessible and meaningful, the Second Edition of *Research Methods in Practice: Strategies for Description and Causation* compels and inspires students to truly grasp the logic and limits of the latest research appearing in academic journals, government reports, and the media. Authors Dahlia K. Remler and Gregg G. Van Ryzin cover the most pertinent issues and methods, emphasizing the critical interpretation and practical application of research findings. Both causation and description and the distinction between them are emphasized and maintained thematically throughout the text. Concepts are taught through in-depth examples, such as "Fighting Malaria in Kenya," "The U.S. Poverty Measure," "The Fallout from Hurricane Katrina," "Family Dinners and Teenage Substance Abuse," and "The Effect of Poverty on Mental Health." The realistic trade-offs, uncertainties, habits, and excitement of the research experience come through on every page. "This is the best text available for teaching students the fundamentals of research design and statistics, and for introducing them to the difficulties inherent in evaluation research and causal inference." Dave E. Marcotte, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

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Customer Reviews

Research Methods in Practice offers a combination of academic weight, coupled clarity and an easy to follow style that will allow students and practitioners to take their research skills to a level otherwise considered unrealistic. If students are looking to purchase one text that will provide sound coverage of research methods coupled with examples that provide clarity of application this is it.

The text is very well organized. Often reading research methods texts can lead to more confusion than the student originally had. This text, by contrast is presented in a clear, logical, tool box approach. --Matthew Cooper

The strengths of this text include the many contemporary references to current events, the language and graphics. The strength is also the simplicity (which is effective) of research, that we do it daily and that it should not be seen as a laborious task (although it may be), but rather as a necessary part of whatever we plan to do in life as scholars, researchers, civil servants, doctors, lawyers, social workers, etc. The ease of applicability of research and the research process as a deliberate, strategic, systematic way to gather credible and useable data/information is one of the most effective aspects of the textbook.--Khadijah O. MillerRemler and

Van Ryzin have filled a void that has too long complicated the job of teaching statistical methods and research design to graduate students of applied social science and public policy. I believe this is the best text available for teaching students the fundamentals of research design and statistics, and introducing them to the difficulties inherent in evaluation research and causal inference.--Dave

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This is a great book, especially for readers who are trying to get a clear, accessible overview of research methods. I used this text in a graduate-level intermediate research and analysis course, and wish I had it for my first research and analysis course as well! The chapters provide real world applications of theory, and progress naturally - but can also be read isolated. The chapter summaries are strong and contain a decent amount of questions that reference the chapter's material very well. If you go over the questions, the chapters will stick with you, and the material will come naturally. The statistics overview is very strong, I suggest going over these chapters before exploring any of the technical material. A great reference book as well, I've used it when I needed to cover topics ranging from multiple regression to difference in differences studies.

This is a very good book for researchers in health. If you are looking for some thing that can lead you via a step by step approach to do a literature review, desk review and write an article - This book is going to be the key for you. The book is very good for students as well who are reviewing different articles as for their Home Work or assignments. I recommend this book.

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