## Good Planning, Better Survey Data: An Introduction to Web Survey Design Susanne de Vogel, Data Science Center, University of Bremen

## **Teaching Script**

Duration: 6h + breaks
Participants: 10-20 pax

Format: Lecture style with exercises; online or in person

TIME	CONTENT	LEARNING GOAL	TRAINING METHOD	MATERIAL/ TECHNOLOGY
30 <b>ʻ</b>	Introduction			
5'	<ul><li>Welcome</li><li>Workshop agenda</li><li>Rules/questions</li></ul>	Participants will become familiar with the workshop structure, objectives, and ground rules for participation.	Input trainer	PPT slides
15'	<ul><li>Introduction trainer</li><li>Introduction participants</li></ul>	Participants will get to know the trainer and fellow participants.	Input trainer; Round of participant introductions	PPT slides
10'	Activity: Introductory survey     Live poll on previous knowledge and expectations for the workshop	Participants will reflect on their prior knowledge and expectations for the workshop.	live poll	PPT slides; Live polling tool (e.g. Mentimeter)
30 <b>ʻ</b>	Introduction to web surveys			
5'	<ul> <li>Definition</li> <li>Advantages and challenges/limitations</li> </ul>	Participants gain a foundational understanding of what constitutes a web survey and are able to identify key advantages and limitations of this survey mode in comparison to other data collection methods.	Input trainer	PPT Slide
10'	<ul> <li>Types of surveys and their applications</li> <li>Differences by timing</li> <li>Cross sectional survey</li> </ul>	Participants understand different types of surveys and their typical applications.	Input trainer	PPT Slide

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	<ul> <li>Longitudinal survey</li> <li>Panel survey</li> <li>Cohort surveys</li> <li>Differences by purpose</li> <li>Exploratory surveys</li> <li>Descriptive surveys</li> <li>Explanatory surveys</li> <li>Diagnostic surveys</li> </ul>			
10'	Total Survey Error in web surveys  Coverage error Sampling error Nonresponse error Adjustment error	Participants are introduced to the Total Survey Error framework and understand the main sources of error in web surveys.	Input trainer	PPT slide
5′	Exercise: Identifying representation errors	Participants learn to identify and differentiate common representation errors in web surveys.	Trainer-led exercise in plenary	Exercises prepared on PPT slides OR board
15'	Coffee break			
35'	Sampling in web surveys			
5'	<ul> <li>Definition</li> <li>Population</li> <li>Sampling frame</li> <li>Sample</li> </ul>	Participants understand the key concepts and are able to distinguish between them in the context of designing and evaluating survey studies	Input trainer	PPT slide
20′	Sampling methods for web surveys  Probability sampling Simple random sampling Systematic sampling Stratified sampling Cluster sampling Non-probability sampling	Participants gain an overview of different sampling methods and learn to assess their suitability for various research contexts, considering practical constraints and implications for data quality and generalizability.	Input trainer	PPT slide

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	<ul> <li>Convenience sampling</li> <li>Quota sampling</li> <li>Purpose sampling</li> <li>Self-selection sampling</li> <li>Snowball sampling</li> </ul>			
8'	Exercise: Matching research scenarios with different sampling strategies	Participants practice choosing suitable sampling methods for different research scenarios	Plenary activity with whiteboards (in person) OR annotation tools (online)	Exercise prepared on whiteboards and stamps; stickers of different coloured pens (in person) OR exercise prepared on PPT slides and annotation tools enabled (online)
2'	Sample size: Influencing factors and tools	Participants understand which factors influence the required sample size and learn about tools and resources for calculating appropriate sample sizes based on their research goals and constraints.	Input trainer	PPT slides
30'	Participant recruitment			,
25'	Recruiting methods – Definitions, applications, advantages - and disadvantages  • Personal  • Post  • E-mail and direct messages  • Impersonal  • Mass mails  • Social media posts, ads and pop-ups  • Online access panels	Participants become familiar with common recruitment methods used in web surveys and understand their typical applications.	Input trainer	PPT slides

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5′	Exercise: Matching recruitment strategies to target groups	Participants are able to select and justify appropriate recruitment methods based on study objectives and target groups.	Trainer-led exercise in plenary	Exercises prepared on PPT slides OR board
55'	Participant motivation and incentivization			
5'	Type of nonresponse  Unit nonresponse Item nonresponse Dropout	Participants understand the different types of Nonresponses in web surveys and recognize how they can affect data quality.	Input trainer	PPT slides
5'	Activity: Guess the number	Participants become aware of the importance of participant motivation.	Live poll	PPT slides; Live polling tool (e.g. Mentimeter)
60'	Lunch break			
40'	Factors influencing motivation  Perceived relevance Invitation Reminder Public relations  Ease of participation Response burden: time, cognitive and emotional burden Survey length and completion time Clarity of questions Instructions Responsive design Accessibility Logical flow of questions Trust in researcher Research team/organisation	Participants understand key factors that influence survey participation and how to design motivating and accessible survey experiences.	Input trainer	PPT slides

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	<ul> <li>Funder/sponsor</li> <li>Testimonies</li> <li>Data protection</li> <li>Incentives</li> <li>Monetary incentives</li> <li>Non-monetary incentives</li> <li>Prize draws</li> </ul>			
5′	Exercise: Matching incentivization strategies to target group	Participants learn to match incentivization strategies to target groups based on context, feasibility, and motivation.	Trainer-led exercise in plenary	Exercises prepared on PPT slides OR board
30'	Data protection			
30′	<ul> <li>EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)</li> <li>Processing data</li> <li>Personal data and special category data</li> <li>GDPR principles in data processing</li> <li>Informed consent</li> <li>Third-party platforms</li> <li>Collecting contact information</li> <li>Templates and further (local) resources</li> </ul>	Participants will understand key GDPR principles relevant to web survey research and know how to address data protection and implement informed consent in their survey design.	Input trainer	PPT slide
15'	Coffee break			
30'	Documentation			
30′	Documents needed: overview, examples, guidelines and templates  • General information  ○ Study topic and objectives  ○ Researchers and affiliations  ○ Funding  ○ Responsibilities	Participants will understand the importance of documenting web survey design and become familiar with key documents, examples, and templates used in research practice.	Input trainer	PPT slides

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	<ul> <li>Fieldwork time</li> <li>Target population</li> <li>Sampling strategy</li> <li>Sample size, characteristics</li> <li>Response metrics, AAPOR standards</li> <li>Questionnaire</li> <li>Measurement instrument development</li> <li>Translation</li> <li>Pretests (interview guidelines, transcripts, results)</li> <li>Variable questionnaire, Layout version (e.g. screenshots)</li> <li>Flowchart</li> <li>Codebook</li> <li>Data collection</li> <li>Contact strategy</li> <li>Reminder strategy</li> <li>Invitation and reminder letters</li> <li>Incentives</li> </ul>			
15'	<ul> <li>Informed consent, checklists</li> <li>Getting Started</li> </ul>			
15'	Creating a web survey step by step	Participants learn to organize the key steps of web survey design in a meaningful sequence and reflect on the rationale behind each stage.	Input trainer	PPT slide
15'	Outro			
15'	<ul><li>Course materials + links</li><li>DSC consultation services</li></ul>	Participants learn where they can get further support.	Input trainer	PPT slides

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	<ul><li>Course evaluation</li><li>Farewell</li></ul>			
	End			