



Research Methods in Psychology

Lab 5. “Are You Happy?” Previous Operationalization

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What are we going to do?

Previous operationalization (Assignment 5)

Why are we doing this?

How to be successful on Assignment 5

Assignment 5 rubrics



A big picture

Conducting psychological research

Asking psychological research questions (assignment 1)

Reviewing relevant articles (assignment 2)

Reading and summarizing relevant articles (assignments 3 and 4)



A big picture

What is the next step?

Measuring variables of interest

- How did previous studies measure variables?
- Was the previous measurement original or from other previous works?
- Can you think of how your research can measure variables?

A big picture

Variables in psychology are usually latent (i.e., unobservable)

WHAT IS A CONSTRUCT?





Previous operationalization

Operational definition

Defines a construct by specifying the procedures used to measure it

- How can we measure happiness?
Scores on satisfaction with life scale
- How can we measure stress?
Scores on perceived stress scale
- How can we measure peer engagement?
The number of minutes engaging in parallel play or interactive play with peers



Previous operationalization

Assignment 5 rubrics

State your research question

List your IV and describe at least two ways it has been operationally defined in the past

List your DV and describe at least two ways it has been operationally defined in the past

List references for the different methods of measurement you describe

Not only the reference you read but also the reference that previous researchers cited



Previous operationalization

How to be successful on assignment 5?

Open the rubrics file and explain them...

Give an example of how to do the assignment...



Previous operationalization

Assignment 5 formats

Type this assignment using Times New Roman 12 pt

APA formatting for the reference

Assignment 5 deadline

Due at 9 am on October 11

No late work will be accepted except for extreme or emergent circumstances

Before you go home...



Any questions or comments?

Thanks! Have a good one!

