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What is the Research Methods Knowledge Base?

The Research Methods Knowledge Base is a comprehensive web-based textbook that addresses all of the topics in a typical introductory social research methods. It covers the entire research process including: formulating research questions; sampling (probability and non-probability); research design (experimental and quasi-experimental); data analysis; and, writing the research paper and philosophical underpinnings of research including: the idea of validity in research; reliability of measures; and ethics. The Knowledge Base is one of the many typical commercially-available research methods texts. It uses an informal, conversational style to engage both the novice and the expert of research. It is a fully hyperlinked text that can be integrated easily into an existing course structure or used as a sourcebook for the researcher to browse.

Purchasing

You can purchase a complete printed copy of the Research Methods Knowledge Base over the web by selecting the link [Purchase the Knowledge Base online](#) at the bottom of any page.

Using the KB in a Course

Updated editions of the Knowledge Base in printed form (much more sophisticated than this one) are published exclusively by Cengage Learning ([KB](#)). Through Cengage Publishing you can expect the finest in web-based course support for the Knowledge Base including workbooks, data banks, and much more.

If you are an instructor or faculty member who wants to use part or all of this web version of the Knowledge Base in a course, I ask that you please let me know (course and semester). I will always grant permission for legitimate course use either as a main or supplementary text. I need your agreement with the publisher and mainly to impress my Dean each year when I tell him how important this site is! **PLEASE NOTE:** If you use the Knowledge Base in your coursework or thesis research you do not need to complete this form - you can just use this as long as you give me credit.

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Thanks for your help on this.

About the Author

William M.K. Trochim is a Professor in the Department of Policy Analysis and Management at Cornell University. He has taught both introductory and advanced courses in applied social research methods since joining the faculty at Cornell in 1980. He received his Ph.D. in 1980 from the program of the Department of Psychology at Northwestern University. His research interests include the theory and practice of research, conceptual mapping and pattern matching, strategic and operational planning methods, performance management and measurement, and change management. He is the founder of [Concept Systems Incorporated](#). He lives in Ithaca, New York and New York City.

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Advertising

Maintaining a website takes a lot of time and has some costs associated with it. Up until now I have been able to cover my costs out of pocket. I apologize to those of you who are purists about this, but I have decided the only way I can continue to supply this website is by advertising on this website. I'll try to make it as discrete as possible. I hope you will understand!

Dedication

For all of the students who in the end taught me so much more than I could have ever taught them. And to my daughter Nora who cor efforts.

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