Basic Course Items and Foundational Concepts

EDP 618

Welcome!

EDP 618: Mixing Research Methods

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West Virginia University
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Your Teacher

Dr. Abhik Roy
Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology
School of Education
West Virginia University

Overview

All I have to do to make a study mixed is to have both a qualitative and quantitative portion right? Mixed-Method studies are the natural byproduct of an ongoing war between people who are distinctly qualitative or quantitative. For many, the ability to look at data through two dynamically opposing approaches has opened doors that simply did not exist before and provides many design choices which can be run sequentially, concurrently, or even at times both. Furthermore when a one method is weaker, its complement can provide additional support through the mixing process. With all of these benefits, *why aren't most studies mixed methods?* This can be answered in two ways: 1) misunderstanding/misidentification: researchers for whatever reason do not to conduct the mixing process resulting in a multi-methods study and 2) methodological/structural: there is a greater risk of an entire study collapsing if errors in one approach affects the other.

Course Objectives

By working hard and asking for help as needed, by the end of this course you should be able to do the following

- assess various types of triangulation
- create aesthetically pleasing and informative single and mixed method(s) data visualizations
- design a structurally sound mixed methods study
- determine how to assess item reliability and validity
- identify pigeonholed designs and steps needed to avoid them
- implement both quantitative and qualitative approaches when assessing open bodies of text
- recognize standard mixed models and to create custom variants
- utilize frequentist and/or basic Bayesian statistical methods to address effects or impacts

Course Materials

For submissions and grades: eCampus

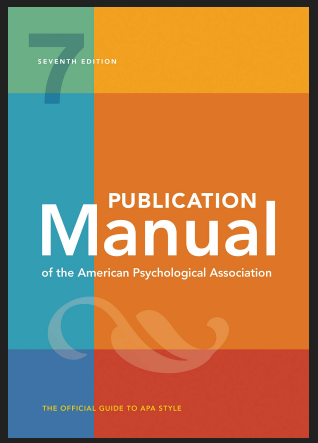
For everything else: EDP 618 course site

Texts

To help minimize costs, you do not have to purchase any physical texts. We'll rely on the various materials below which, barring the APA 7th edition handbook, are either available through the WVU library WVU library or in digital format

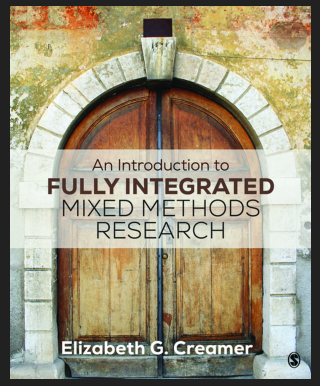
References

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.).



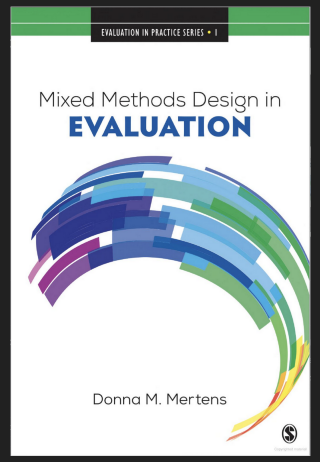
Creamer, E. G. (2017). *An introduction to fully integrated mixed methods research*. Sage.

- Free: Digital edition
- Not Free: ISBN 9781483350936



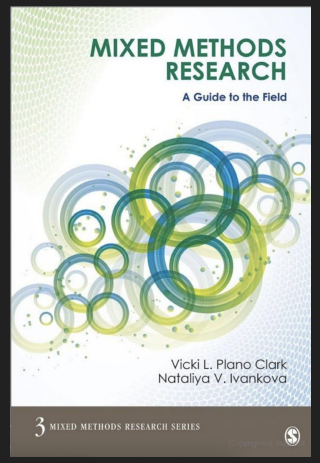
Mertens, D. M. (2018). *Mixed methods design in evaluation*. Sage.

- Free: Digital edition
- Not Free: ISBN 9781506330655



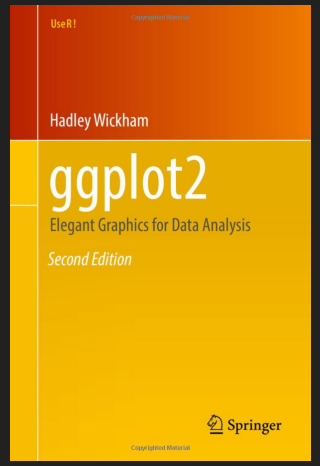
Plano Clark, V. L. & Ivankova, N. V. (2015). *Mixed methods research: A guide to the field*. Sage.

- Free: Digital edition
- Not Free: ISBN 9783319242750



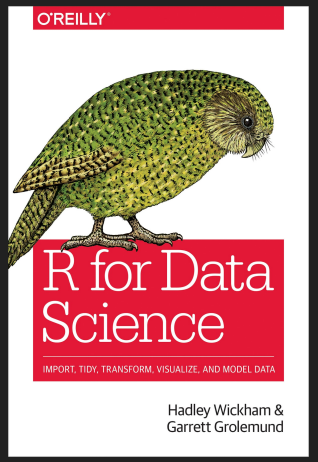
Wickham, H., Navarro, D. & Pedersen, T.L. (2021). *ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analysis* (2nd and 3rd eds.). Springer.

- Free: Digital edition
- Not Free: Hardcover edition - ISBN: 9783319242750



Wickham, H. (2021). *R for Data Science* (1st ed.). O'Reilly Media.

- Free: Digital edition (web)
- Free: Digital edition (WVU libraries)
- Not Free: Hardcover edition - ISBN: 9781491910399



There will also occasionally be additional articles and videos to read and watch. When this happens, links to these other resources will be included on the content page for that session.

Class Focus on

Content

- Readings
- Design & Analysis
- Mixing Process & Interpretation

Practice

- R Modules & Walkthroughs
- Data Visualization & Modeling
- Assessing & Reporting

What I expect

- Keeping an open line of communication
- A lot of work
- Asking questions and reaching out as needed (after going over all of the material)

Assignments and Grades

You can find descriptions for all the assignments on the tasks page.

Percent	Assignment	Submission
10	R Training & Tasks	Data Camp
10	Mixed Methods EDA	eCampus
5	Participation	In class
5	Think about Studies	eCampus
5	Create an Argument	eCampus
10	Develop a Draft	eCampus
10	Update the Draft	eCampus
10	Refine the Draft	eCampus
30	Revise and Resubmit	eCampus
5	Give an Elevator Pitch	eCampus/Slack

The Final is depedendent on all course deliverables preceding it and is summarized on the tasks page.

Grading

Grade	Range
A	90% – 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% – 79%
D	60% – 69%
F	< 60%

That's it. If you have questions, please send them along!