



Homework 4

Undergraduate Research Methods in Psychology

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1 Purpose and Context

This homework will help prepare you for structuring a methods section of a research paper, a skill you will readily use in application to your research proposal in the following weeks. This scaffolding helps better plan out how to find and describe measures, and how to assess them for inclusion in your project.

2 Prompt

You are working with a neurologist in a new clinic for patients who have suffered a traumatic brain injury (TBI). Specifically, this clinic is focused around evaluating the quality of life (QoL) of individuals who have had a TBI, so that it can be better understood what the injuries do to individuals in the long term. However, as part of starting this clinic, you need to figure out how to measure the many components of a person's well-being, in a valid way.

For the clinic, we need to track down a good measure for 3 constructs: 1) Sleepiness, 2) Depression, 3) Anxiety. Ideally, any measure that we choose needs to be valid and reliable for the construct that it is meant to measure. Basically, we want to make sure these measures actually do a good job of representing patient experiences and stay consistent in how they do so.

When it comes to measures, we may choose to make our own for these constructs, but it is oftentimes easier and more acceptable to just find a pre-validated one. You can specifically look for measures using the links in the left sidebar of the [GVSU Library Psychology Subject Guide](#) (i.e., HAPI or "Mental Measurements Yearbook with Tests in Print"). You can also look for these using the general psychology databases (i.e., PSYCInfo), and sometimes looking in these databases can be useful to find additional validation studies for these tools.

To help prepare the clinic you must:

- Find and identify 1 measure/instrument each for all 3 constructs: Sleepiness, Depression, and Anxiety
 - Find the original, accurate APA citation for each tool, as well as a link or PDF of the measure itself - ideally, I need to be able to see the measure myself. However, if the tool is proprietary/copyrighted, you can just give me a link to the product page.
 - Provide at least one psychometric/construct validity statistic for each measure. You may choose any of the measurement reliability or validity statistics for this. Remember to provide citations as needed - you will possibly need to look at additional papers to find this. I will ask myself as I grade - "where did you get this information from?"
 - Briefly identify the scale of measurement of each chosen measure (interval, ordinal, ratio, categorical, etc.)
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3 Checklist

3.1 In Assignment

You may answer these with bullet points, so long as each part is clearly covered.

- ☐ Clearly identified 1 self-report or observational measure each for 1) Sleepiness, 2) Depression, and 3) Anxiety
- ☐ Each measure has an in-text citation for the original development of the instrument, as well as the corresponding entry [In References Section](#)
- ☐ Each measure has a link to either the tool itself or a product page to purchase it
- ☐ Each measure has at least one measurement validity or reliability statistic (i.e., a number) with correct citation and reference for that value
- ☐ Each measure is clearly identified as producing interval, ordinal, ratio, or categorical data

3.2 In References Section

- ☐ Includes only those citations referenced with an in-text citations, within the assignment - no more, no less
 - ☐ All citations contain the full reference information for the article including: authors, year of publication, title of paper, journal name, volume number, issue number, page numbers
 - ☐ References are all in APA 7 format, including double-spacing and hanging indent
 - ☐ References are arranged alphabetically according the first author's last name
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