
Contents

Preface	xi
Acknowledgments	xv
1 Educational Research: Its Nature and Characteristics	1
<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>The Nature of Educational Research</i>	3
The Systematic Process of Research	3
The Validity of Educational Research	4
Internal Validity	5
External Validity	6
The Reliability of Educational Research	9
Research Has a Variety of Forms	9
<i>Classification of Educational Research</i>	10
Basic and Applied Research	10
General Methodology: Qualitative and Quantitative Research	12
Experimental Research	14
Quasi-Experimental Research	15
Survey Research	15
Historical Research	16
Ethnographic Research	16
<i>The Role of Theory</i>	18
<i>The Activities of the Research Process</i>	20
Identification of the Research Problem	21
Data Collection	22
Analysis	22
Summarizing Results and Drawing Conclusions	22

<i>Summary</i>	23
The Function of Educational Research	24
<i>Key Concepts</i>	26
<i>Exercises</i>	26
<i>Notes</i>	27
<i>References</i>	27
2 Identification of a Research Problem	29
<i>Selection of a Research Problem</i>	29
<i>Statement of the Research Problem</i>	31
Constants, Variables, and Operational Definition	34
Independent and Dependent Variables	35
Other Possible Types of Variables	36
Variables as They Are Measured	38
Operational Definition	39
Hypotheses and the Statement of the Problem	40
Types and Forms of Hypotheses	42
Examples of Hypotheses Related to Problem Statements	45
<i>Summary</i>	50
<i>Key Concepts</i>	52
<i>Exercises</i>	52
<i>Notes</i>	53
<i>References</i>	54
3 The Review of the Literature	55
<i>The Activities of the Review of the Literature</i>	56
<i>Sources of Information</i>	57
Periodical Literature	58
Education Index	58
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)	58
An Example Using CIJE and RIE	60
Other Indexes and Abstracts	64
Review of Educational Research (RER)	65
Other Reviews	65
Reports of Meta-Analysis	66
Abstracts and Reports in Periodicals	66
Theses and Dissertations	68
Selected Books	69
The Encyclopedia of Educational Research (EER)	69
Handbook of Research on Teaching	69
Review of Research in Education	69
<i>Conducting a Computer Search</i>	70
Identifying the Research Problem and the Extent of Search	71
Selecting a Database	71
Selecting and Combining Descriptors	72
Searching the Database for Numbers of References	73

Broadening the Search, if Necessary	75
Use of the CD ROM	75
<i>Selecting Studies for the Review of the Literature</i>	77
<i>Assembling and Summarizing Information</i>	78
Bibliographic Entry	79
Abstract or Summary	80
Organizing Information	83
<i>Interpreting and Using Information</i>	83
Critical Review	84
Writing the Review	85
Referencing	85
Preparing the Bibliography	86
<i>Summary</i>	87
<i>Key Concepts</i>	88
<i>Exercises</i>	88
<i>Notes</i>	89
<i>References</i>	89
4 Research Design in Quantitative Research	91
<i>The Purposes of Research Design</i>	91
<i>The Concept of Controlling Variance</i>	92
Procedures for Controlling Variance	93
Randomization	94
Building in Factors as Independent Variables	95
Holding Factors Constant	97
Statistical Control	97
Using Procedures for Control in Combination	99
<i>Characteristics of Good Research Design</i>	101
Freedom from Bias	102
Freedom from Confounding	102
Control of Extraneous Variables	102
Statistical Precision for Testing Hypotheses	103
<i>Summary</i>	103
<i>Key Concepts</i>	104
<i>Exercises</i>	104
<i>Notes</i>	105
<i>References</i>	105
5 Experimental Research	107
<i>The Meaning of Experimental Design</i>	107
Experimental Variables	109
Use of the Term <i>Subject</i>	110
<i>Criteria for a Well-Designed Experiment</i>	111
Experimental Validity	112
Threats to Experimental Validity	113
<i>Posttest-Only Control Group Design</i>	115

<i>Pretest-Posttest Control Group Design</i>	117
<i>Solomon Four-Group Design</i>	120
<i>Factorial Designs</i>	122
<i>Repeated Measures Designs</i>	125
<i>Designs Extended in Time</i>	128
Time Series Designs	129
<i>Interpreting Results of Experiments</i>	130
<i>Randomness and Representativeness</i>	134
<i>Summary</i>	135
<i>Key Concepts</i>	135
<i>Exercises</i>	136
<i>Notes</i>	138
<i>References</i>	138
6 Quasi-Experimental Research	139
<i>The Problems of Validity</i>	139
<i>Posttest-Only, Nonequivalent Control Group Design</i>	140
<i>Pretest-Posttest, Nonequivalent Control Group Design</i>	143
<i>Time Series Designs</i>	146
Single-Group Time Series Design	146
Multiple-Group Time Series Design	149
Variations in Time Series Designs	151
<i>Single Subject Designs</i>	152
A-B Design	153
A-B-A Design	155
A-B-A-B Design	157
Multiple-Baseline Design	160
Multiple-Baseline Design Across Behaviors	160
Multiple-Baseline Design Across Subjects	160
Multiple-Baseline Design Across Situations	161
<i>Action Research and Quasi-Experimental Research</i>	163
<i>Summary</i>	164
<i>Key Concepts</i>	165
<i>Exercises</i>	165
<i>Notes</i>	167
<i>References</i>	167
7 Survey Research	169
<i>Survey Research: Its Scope and Description</i>	169
Ex post facto Research	170
Examples of ex post facto Research	170
Other Survey Research	171
<i>Survey Designs</i>	172
Longitudinal Designs	172
Cross-Sectional Designs	174

<i>The Methodology of Survey Research</i>	176
<i>Questionnaire Surveys</i>	178
Item Construction	179
Item Format	181
Pilot Run of the Items	183
The Cover Letter	183
Questionnaire Format	186
Procedures for Increasing Response Rate	187
Follow-up Procedures	188
Identifying Sources of Nonresponse	189
Incomplete and Possible Dishonest Response	190
Examples	192
Community Surveys	192
Client Surveys	194
<i>Interview Surveys</i>	194
Interview Items	197
Items from the Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa Poll	198
Conducting the Interview	199
Potential Sources of Error	200
Telephone Interviews	201
A Comment About Branching Items	202
<i>Other Surveys</i>	203
<i>Analyzing and Reporting Survey Results</i>	203
Hypothetical Example 1	204
Hypothetical Example 2	204
Hypothetical Example 3	205
<i>Summary</i>	206
<i>Key Concepts</i>	207
<i>Exercises</i>	207
<i>Notes</i>	209
<i>References</i>	209
8 Research Design in Qualitative Research	211
<i>The Epistemology of Qualitative Research</i>	211
<i>Components of Research Design</i>	213
Working Design	213
Working Hypotheses	214
Data Collection	214
Data Analysis and Interpretation	216
Possible Codes	216
<i>Perspectives for Qualitative Research</i>	219
Example: Funnel Approach	220
Example: Modified Analytic Induction Approach	221
<i>Reliability and Validity of Qualitative Research</i>	222
<i>Use of Computers in Qualitative Research</i>	223

Capabilities of Computer Software in	
Qualitative Research	224
The ETHNOGRAPH	224
AskSam	225
Sources of Information about Computers in Qualitative Research	225
<i>Summary</i>	226
<i>Key Concepts</i>	227
<i>Exercises</i>	227
<i>Notes</i>	228
<i>References</i>	228
9 Historical Research	231
<i>The Value of Historical Research</i>	232
<i>Sources of Information in Historical Research</i>	234
<i>The Methodology of Historical Research</i>	234
Identification of the Research Problem	235
Collection and Evaluation of Source Materials	238
External Criticism	238
Internal Criticism	239
Synthesis of Information	240
Analysis, Interpretation, and Formulating Conclusions	241
<i>Quantitative Methods in Historical Research</i>	243
<i>Comments on the Reporting of Historical Research</i>	243
Reports in Professional Journals	244
<i>Summary</i>	245
<i>Key Concepts</i>	246
<i>Exercises</i>	246
<i>References</i>	247
10 Ethnographic Research	249
<i>The Nature of Ethnography in Education</i>	249
The Phenomenological Nature	250
The Naturalistic Nature	251
The Holistic and General Perspective	252
<i>A Conceptual Schema for Ethnographic Research</i>	253
<i>The Process of Ethnographic Research</i>	254
Identification of the Phenomenon to Be Studied	258
Identification of Subjects	258
Hypothesis Generation	259
Data Collection	260
Observation	261
Videotaping	262
Interviewing	262
Reviewing Other Sources	263
Triangulation	263

Analysis 265
 Coding 266
 Use of Numbers 267
 Drawing Conclusions 269
Examples of Ethnographic Research in Education 269
The Reliability and Validity of Ethnographic Research 272
 Reliability 273
 Validity 274
The Role of Ethnographic Research 277
 Summary 278
 Key Concepts 279
 Exercises 280
 Notes 281
 References 281

11 Sampling Designs 283

The Concept of a Random Sample 283
 Random Selection and Random Assignment 284
 Use of a Random Number Table 285
 Sampling Error and Sampling Bias 287
Criteria for a Sampling Design 288
Stratified Random Sampling 289
 Allocation of Sample Size Among Strata 290
Cluster Sampling 292
Systematic Sampling 294
 Possible Problem of Periodicity 294
Considerations in Determining Sample Size—Random Sampling 295
Purposeful Sampling 297
 Comprehensive Sampling 298
 Maximum Variation Sampling 299
 Extreme Case Sampling 299
 Typical Case Sampling 300
 Homogeneous Sampling 300
 Other Variations of Purposeful Sampling 300
 Sample Size of Purposeful Samples 301
 Summary 303
 Key Concepts 304
 Exercises 305
 Notes 306
 References 306

12 Measurement and Data Collection 307

Concepts of Measurement 308
 Types of Measurement Scales 308

- Reliability of Measurement 309
- Empirical Procedures for Estimating Reliability 310
- Expected Reliability Coefficients for Various Types of Tests 311
- Validity of Measurement 311
 - Content-Related Evidence 313
 - Criterion-Related Evidence: Concurrent and Predictive 313
 - Construct-Related Evidence 313
- The Variables Measured in Educational Research 315*
- Tests and Inventories Used for Measurement 315*
 - Achievement Tests in Academic and Skills Areas 316
 - Attitude Inventories 317
 - Likert Scale 318
 - Semantic Differential 319
 - Aptitude Tests 321
 - Personality Measures 323
 - Rating Scales 323
 - Observation Systems 325
 - Measures Involving Holistic Scoring 326
- Where to Find Test Information 327*
- Quantitative Data Preparation 328*
 - Coding Data 329
 - An Example of a Data File 330
- Summary 331*
- Key Concepts 334*
- Exercises 334*
- Notes 335*
- References 336*

- 13 Data Analysis: Descriptive Statistics 337**
 - The Multiple Meanings of Statistics 337*
 - Distributions 338*
 - Describing a Distribution of Scores 339
 - Measures of Central Tendency 340
 - Measures of Variability 340
 - Shapes of Distributions 341
 - Standard Scores 342
 - Properties of Standard Scores 343
 - Determining Standard Scores 343
 - Correlation—A Measure of Relationship 345*
 - Uses of Correlation 348
 - Different Correlation Coefficients 349
 - Using the Computer for Data Analysis 352*
 - General Procedure for Computer Use 354
 - Summary 359*
 - Key Concepts 360*

<i>Exercises</i>	360
<i>Notes</i>	361
<i>Reference</i>	361
14 Data Analysis: Inferential Statistics	363
<i>Testing Hypotheses and Estimating Parameters</i>	364
Concept of Sampling Distribution	365
Building a Confidence Interval—The Example Continued	368
Possible Errors in Hypothesis Testing	370
<i>Inferences from Statistics to Parameters: A Review</i>	371
<i>Parametric Analyses</i>	372
The <i>t</i> -Distribution—Another Sampling Distribution	373
Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)	376
<i>Nonparametric Analyses</i>	378
The Chi-Square (χ^2) Test and Distribution	378
<i>Correlational Analyses</i>	381
Analysis of Covariance	384
<i>The Role of Statistical Analysis</i>	386
<i>Selecting an Appropriate Statistical Analysis</i>	389
<i>Comments About Statistical Analysis</i>	390
Meta-Analysis	39
<i>Summary</i>	394
<i>Key Concepts</i>	395
<i>Exercises</i>	396
<i>Notes</i>	398
<i>References</i>	398
15 Communicating About Research	401
<i>Major Sections of the Research Proposal</i>	402
Identification of the Problem	403
Review of the Literature	405
Methods or Procedures	406
Significance of the Proposed Research	409
Other Sections of the Research Proposal	410
Cover Page	410
Abstract	410
Budget	410
Staff Resumes	411
Appendices	411
<i>The Evaluation of Proposals</i>	411
<i>Major Sections of the Research Report</i>	412
Introduction, Including the Statement of the Problem	413
Review of the Literature	414
Methods or Procedures	415

Results	416
Use of Tables	417
Conclusions, Recommendations, and Implications	418
<i>Other Sections of the Research Report</i>	419
Abstract	420
Bibliography and Reference List	420
Appendix	421
<i>Putting a Report Together</i>	421
Software for Word Processing	423
<i>Guidelines for Presenting Papers at Meetings</i>	424
<i>Presentations to Dissertation and Thesis Committees</i>	426
<i>Summary</i>	427
<i>Key Concepts</i>	428
<i>Exercises</i>	429
<i>Notes</i>	429
<i>References</i>	430

**Appendix 1. Ethical and Legal Considerations in
Conducting Research 431**

Appendix 2. Solutions to Exercises 437

Appendix 3. Tables 451

<i>Table A. Ordinates and Areas of the Normal Curve</i>	452
<i>Table B. Critical Values of t</i>	454
<i>Table C. Upper Percentage Points of the χ^2 Distribution</i>	455
<i>Table D. Upper Percentage Points of the F-Distribution</i>	456
<i>Table E. Critical Values of the Correlation Coefficient</i>	462

Glossary of Research Methods Terms 463

Name Index 471

Subject Index 473