A Bibliography of Research Methods Texts

ACRL Instruction Section Research and Scholarship Committee

April 2006 (Document last updated January 2009)

This annotated bibliography of research methods texts is produced by the ACRL Instruction Section Research and Scholarship Committee. It provides information on research methods relevant to library and information science, and is intended to complement the "Research Agenda for Library Instruction and Information Literacy." <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/is/projpubs/researchagendalibrary.cfm>.

This annotated bibliography lists English language texts that are currently in print and that focus on research methods in librarianship or the social sciences. The books are arranged into general subject categories and then listings appear alphabetically by author. Paired with each citation is a list of published reviews including reviews authored by committee members. Additional details may be found in the Committee Publications Details & Revisions Schedule (pdf).The list is reviewed and

deMarrais, Kathleen B. and Stephen D. Lapan. 2004.

journal articles. Gray writes in a friendly, helpful style, as if sitting next to the reader and guiding him/her through the process.

The first three chapters should be read by everyone, and later chapters on specific methods can be read as needed. After explaining the difference between the deductive process and the inductive process in chapter one, chapter two summarizes the philosophical underpinnings of the various research methodologies. Chapter three discusses selecting and planning a research project, including helpful tips on types of topics to avoid. This chapter also includes information on writing a research proposal. Succeeding sections of the book cover research methods (experimental and quasi-experimental, surveys, case studies, evaluation); data collection tools (questionnaires, interviews, observation, unobtrusive measures such as document evaluation); analysis (of quantitative and qualitative data) and report writing; and action research. Ethical issues are mentioned throughout the text. The writing is clear and succinct, and references to more detailed information are provided in each chapter and in the final bibliography.

Throughout the book brief case studies and activities are set apart in boxes. The case studies bring theories and definitions to life, while the activities are provided to help the reader reflect on his/her own research, or to analyze ideas in the text, or to explore relevant web sites. The book also includes chapter objectives and summaries, a glossary, and index.

This helpful book is highly recommended to anyone getting started in research.

- Nancy H. Dewald, March 2006

Published Reviews:

Bostock, Stephen. 2005. Review of Doing research in the real world by David E. Gray. *Nurse Researcher* 12:90.

Redish, Janice. 2005. Review of Doing research in the real world by David E. Gray. *Technical Communication* 52:376.

Kerlinger, Frank Nichols and Howard B. Lee. 1999. *Foundations of behavioral research*. 4th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. xxv, 890 p. ISBN: 0155078976 (hbk.), US $127.95

Committee Member Review:

This text examines the fundamentals of solving a scientific research problem, focusing on the relationship between the problem and the research design. This edition includes new information about computer statistical software, multivariate statistics, research ethics, and writing research reports in APA style. This book is ideal for graduate students in that it covers statistics, research methodology, and measurement all in one volume. This is a book that graduate students will keep as a reference throughout their careers.

There are very few books written that cover as many important topics in behavioral research methods as this one. This is a must have book for anyone planning to do statistical analysis, not only in psychology but in the social sciences as well. Earlier editions were outstanding and the fourth edition is exceptional. The new material in the 4th Edition is helpful to today's researcher. Both researcher and student doing research should have this book. The examples are extremely useful in facilitating the understanding of research methods and the analysis of data.

Foundations of behavioral research's major purpose has always been the same: to help students understand the fundamental nature of the scientific approach to problem solution. Technical and methodological problems have been considered at length. One cannot understand any complex human activity, especially scientific research activity, without some technical and methodological competence. But technical competence is empty without an understanding of the basic intent and nature of scientific research: the controlled and objective study of the relations among phenomena. All else is subordinate to this. Thus the book, as its name indicates, strongly emphasizes the fundamentals or foundations of behavioral research.

- Mark Spasser, December 2005

No published reviews

Miller, Delbert C., and Neil J. Salkind. 2002. *Handbook of research design and social measurement*. 6th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. xxii, 786p. ISBN: 0761920463 (pbk.), US $84.95

Committee Member Review:
The 6th edition of the authors' "reference handbook" addresses all areas of social science research. It would make an excellent text for any overview course in this area. Comprehensive in scope, it addresses most of the aspects of understanding behavioral or organizational research, applied and evaluation research, and qualitative research. It also deals with issues such as study design, data collection, research resources, and analysis. Particularly useful are the sections regarding such fundamental issues as research proposals and ethics.

Each section includes many examples and an extensive list of resources. This volume may not be practical for the casual reader or practitioner in a hurry; it is so broad in scope that it would be most useful for someone with a serious academic interest in social sciences research.

- Anna Pilston, March 2006

Published reviews:

Powell, Ronald R. 2004. Review of Handbook of research design and social measurement, 6th ed., by Delbert C. Miller and Neil J. Salkind. *Library & Information Science Research* 26:110.
Uprichard, Emma. 2004. Review of Handbook of research design and social measurement, 6th ed., by Delbert C. Miller and Neil J. Salkind. *Sociology - The Journal of the British Sociological Association* 38:407.

Neuman, W. Lawrence. 2006. *Social research methods: Qualitative and quantitative approaches*. 6th ed. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon. 592p. ISBN: 0205457932 (hbk.), US $89.00

Committee Member Review:
Neuman presents an updated edition of his popular textbook, *Social research methods*. This book is really meant for use in an undergraduate or beginning graduate class. It introduces readers to social research generally, including discussions of theory and basic methodologies. The remainder of the book has basic information on developing research questions, a literature review, and quantitative and qualitative research designs and methods. The book provides definitions and some excellent examples throughout, especially of good research questions and an example of effective literature reviews.

The book would be useful to librarians who want a very general introduction to the broad sweep of social science research. Consulting the chapters on literature reviews and measurement, for example, might be useful at the beginning of a research project. The book does read like a textbook, however, and is less effective in its entirety. For more detailed and practical treatments of various qualitative and quantitative research methods, books focused on those areas alone are likely more useful.

- Wendy Holliday, March 2006

Published Review of the 5th edition:

Bischoping, Katherine. 2005. Review of Social research methods: Qualitative and quantitative approaches, 5th ed., by W. Lawrence Neuman. *Teaching Sociology* 33:95.

Outhwaite, W., & Turner, S. P. 2007. *The SAGE handbook of social science methodology*. Los Angeles (Calif.); London: SAGE. 640 pages. ISBN: 1412901197. $130.00 (hbk).

Committee Member Review:

A thorough guide to the history, issues, and debates regarding social research and its methodologies, written by experts in the field. Though not a how-to handbook, this collection of essays may be useful to the researcher who seeks to understand the philosophies behind certain modes of inquiry.

-Caroline Barratt, Jan. 2009

Published Review:

Wang, R. 2008. Review of The SAGE handbook of social science methodology by W. Outhwaite and S. P. Turner. *CHOICE*, 45, no. 2 (Oct): 359.

Patten, Mildred L. 2004. *Understanding research methods: An overview of the essentials*. 4th ed. Glendale, CA: Pyrczak Publishing. 170p. ISBN 1884585523 (pbk.) 5th ed.: 183p. ISBN 1884585647 (pbk.), US $52.50

Committee Member Review:

(This review is of the 4th edition) The strongest feature of *Understanding research methods* is its explanation of research methods for students of all ages. For the reader who barely remembers his/her old research methods course or never took one at all, this book explains the essentials clearly and concisely. Each topic (of which there are 59) is explained in two pages, and each topic ends in a three part exercise: (1) review questions, (2) "questions for discussion" to help the reader synthesize the information, and (3) questions "for students who are planning research" that help a researcher apply that topic to his/her own research planning. The topics are organized under seven categories: introduction to research methods, reviewing literature, sampling, measurement, experimental design, understanding statistics, and effect size and meta-analysis.

There are seven Appendices. The best amplify the regpr(pla)3(BT1 0 0 1 72.024 425.95 (e)6(v)-4(er,)] TJETBT TJETqu)15(

bibliographic databases, and electronic statistical databases. A "table of random numbers," a "table of recommended sample sizes for populations with finite sizes," and an index complete the book. There are no references to other sources. This book would be helpful to any researcher trying to determine what type of method(s) to use for researching a particular subject, as well as how to ensure the quality of one's research.

- Nancy H. Dewald, February 2006

Published Review (of the second edition):

Baker, Lynda M. 2001. Review of Understanding Research Methods: An Overview of the Essentials, 2nd ed., by Mildred L. Patten. *The Library Quarterly* 71:96.

Simon, Julian Lincoln. 2003. *Basic research methods in social science: The art of empirical investigation*. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers. [Reprint of previous 2nd edition, 1978, entitled Basic research methods in social sciences: The art of empirical investigation.] 558p. ISBN: 0765805308 (pbk.), US $34.95

Committee Member Review:

This textbook is a reprint of the second edition, published in 1978, with a new introduction by James E. Katz. Katz praises the author's conversational style as well as his emphasis on applied examples to help new social scientists not only conduct, but understand, research. The book has five parts: "The process of social-science research," which gives basic descriptions of statistical terms and types of empirical research; "Research decisions and procedures," the bulk of the book, covers the steps in the research process from advice on finding an appropriate research problem (very helpful), to designing experiments, collecting, analyzing, and writing up the data. Various research methods are also thoroughly described. Part three is entitled "The obstacles to social-science knowledge and ways to overcome them," followed by "Extracting the meaning of data," which explains relationships among variables, probability and hypothesis testing. The Epilogue, Bibliography and Index complete the book. Chapters include exercises, "additional reading," tables, graphs, and even cartoons. This book is highly recommended for its thoroughness, clarity, and applicability to library research.

- Christen Cardina, December 2005

No published reviews.

Yates, Simeon J. 2004. *Doing social science research*. London, UK: Sage Publications: Open University. 293p. ISBN 0761967974 (hbk.); 0761967982 (pbk.), US $119.00 (hbk.); $48.95 (pbk.)

Committee Member Review:

Yates begins by explaining that this book was developed with the book *Social science in question* by Mark J. Smith, and that while Yates frequently relates techniques to theories such as empiricism or positivism, he refers the reader to fuller discussion of philosophy and theory in the Smith book. However, it is not necessary to read both books to benefit from Yates' text. Following an introduction, Part II discusses quantitative research methods, including survey research, experimental research, and the numerical data analysis used for both of these methods.

Part III, qualitative research methods, discusses interviewing (in-depth interviews, focus group

interviews, and ethnographic fieldwork), analyzing qualitative data, and discourse analysis. The book ends with a brief chapter on selecting and evaluating methods of research; references; and an index. Yates has included extended readings from other sources. Some of these readings simply provide further explanations of the text, while others are fascinating research articles, for example, "Lessons from the electorate: What the 1992 British general election taught British pollsters about the conduct of opinion polls" and "Becoming a mother - Developing a new theory of early motherhood." Yates also

Ellingson, L. L. 2007. Review of *Qualitative research methods for the social sciences,* 6th ed, by B. L. Berg. *Communication Research Trends* 26.1: 24.

Creswell, John W. 1997. *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five traditions*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. 403p. ISBN: 0761901442 (pbk.), US

Committee Member Review:
This book explores the philosophical underpinnings, history and key elements of each of five qualitative inquiry traditions: biography, phenomenology, grounded theory, ethnography and case study. Creswell relates research designs to each of the traditions of inquiry and consistently compares each of the research strategies for theoretical frameworks, writing introduction to studies, collecting

Published reviews:

Agosto, D. E. 2006. Review of *Qualitative research for the information professional,* by G. E. Gorman and Peter Clayton. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* 57.12: 1708-1709.

Goulding, A. 2006. Review of *Qualitative research for the information professional,* by G. E. Gorman and Peter Clayton. *Education for Information* 24: 73-74.

Bawden, D. 2005. Review of *Qualitative research for the information professional,* by G. E. Gorman and Peter Clayton. *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science* 37.3: 161-162.

Firth, A. 2005. Review of *Qualitative research for the information professional,* by G. E. Gorman and Peter Clayton. *Education Libraries Journal* 48.2: 29-30.

McDowell, N. 2005. Review of *Qualitative research for the information professional,* by G. E. Gorman and Peter Clayton. *Library Collections, Acquisitions & Technical Services* 29: 338-339.

Terras, M. 2007. Review of *Qualitative research for the information professional,* by G. E. Gorman and Peter Clayton. *Literary & Linguistic Computing* 22:246-248.

Merriam, Sharan B. (ed.). 2002. *Qualitative research in practice*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey- Bass. 439 p. ISBN: 0787958956 (pbk.), US $30.00

Committee Member Review:

This book is intended as supplement to more standard textbooks for students or practitioners in the social sciences who want to learn more about qualitative research through reading and studying articles. Although not focused specifically on library science, the preface notes that the although different questions asked by disciplines as diverse as education, nursing, social work, or urban studies, the strategies of qualitative inquiry are the same in each of these areas. The preface notes that "qualitative research" can be applied to interpretive, critical, feminist, post-structural, Marxist, and participatory research, with the majority of chapters reflecting an interpretive approach to research. Qualitative research in practice consists of two sections: an introductory section comprised of two chapters that explain qualitative research and discuss ways of assessing and evaluating it, as well as a second section consisting of 16 articles which (e)e areas.whi2cc85 TS6-3(the al)10(tho)-3(u)3(g)4(h)]t3(, f)9(em)-6()2erpr

Morse, Janice M. and Lyn Richards. 2007.

Of the 2nd edition:

Day, W. 2007. Review of *Readme first for a user's guide to qualitative methods,* by L. Richards and J. M. Morse*. Qualitative Research Journal* 7.1: 67.

Patton, Michael Quinn. 2002. *Qualitative research and evaluation methods*. 3rd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. xxiv, 688p. ISBN: 0761919716 (hbk.), US $85.95

Committee Member Review:
This volume focuses on qualitative research and data, which the author identifies as coming specifically from "three kinds of data collection": interviews, observation, and document analysis. It is divided into three sections. The first discusses "conceptual issues," explaining the basics of qualitative research, theory, and applications. In the second section, "designs and data collection," the author discusses the design of studies as well as fieldwork and interviewing. Finally, the third section addresses "analysis, interpretation, and reporting," including the best ways to enhance results for presentation purposes. All three sections are generously sprinkled with useful examples, or "exhibits," and case studies.

Although the book lacks a general introduction, its organization is clearly outlined in its two tables of contents, one brief and one more detailed. All references are included in one big list at the end of the volume, and the book also has separate author and subject indexes. This resource is detailed and thorough, but its style still manages to be very readable, and at times is even lighthearted and amusing. It would be a welcome guide for serious practitioners or students.

- Anna Pilston, March 2006

Published reviews:

Devitt, Patric. 2003. Review of Qualitative research and evaluation methods, 3rd ed., by Michael Quinn Patton. *Nurse Education Today* 23:467.
Janesick, V. J. 2003. Review of Qualitative research and evaluation methods, 3rd ed., by Michael Quinn Patton. *Qualitative Health Research* 13:884.
Locke, Karen. 2002. Review of Qualitative research and evaluation methods, 3rd ed., by Michael Quinn Patton. *Organizational Research Methods* 5:299.
Tiefer, L. 2003. Review of Qualitative research and evaluation methods, 3rd ed., by Michael Quinn Patton. *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy* 29:403.

Rossman, Gretchen B. and Sharon F. Rallis. 2003. *Learning in the field: An introduction to qualitative research*. 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. 392p. ISBN: 0761926518 (pbk.), US $43.95

Committee Member Review:
Rossman and Rallis have provided a useful book for those who learn better through narrative and concrete examples, rather than abstract discussions. The book is organized around three characters, Anthony, Marla, and Ruth, students in a qualitative research class. Each chapter begins with a conversation between the students as they struggle with major phases of the research process, from developing good, focused research questions to data analysis and writing. Each character represents a different qualitative research approach: descriptive, evaluative, a(-3(rd)4(ent)-3(TBT1l0 1 7p9[(eip)4(ti)11(v)-4(e)9(, e)7(

This is an enjoyable text to read, conversational in style and characterized by interesting, illustrative examples and anecdotes. It concludes with a question-and-answer format summary intended to address those questions most frequently posed by developing researchers.

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in explaining the fundamental concepts and principles underlying statistical methods and analysis so that researchers can make better and more informed choices. In an age when software tools make it relatively easy to collect numbers, Gorard's book is a welcome prescriptive for using numbers in a sound and effective way.

- Wendy Holliday, March 2006

No published reviews.

Maleske, Robert Thomas. 1995. *Foundations for gathering and interpreting behavioral data: An introduction to statistics*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing Corporation. 464 p., ISBN: 0534237428 (hbk.), US $79.95

Committee Member Review
The author states that this is her response to other elementary statistics and resource methods textbooks. He faults these books for focusing on statistical analysis as an end in itself. He intends for this work to "help readers understand the process of gathering and interpreting behavioral data." (vii). The author believes that readers will most easily understand information when they can related it with their own experiences, and states that experience in observing everyday people and events, questioning observations, and making interpretations is the only prerequisite for using this book.

The book is divided into three main sections, "Understanding descriptive statistics," "Understanding inferential statistics," and "Tm1ing descrip7E1 0 0 1 163.94 506.t/ite9

Published Reviews:

2008. Review of *Best practices in quantitative methods* by J. W. Osborne. *Reference & Research Book News*, 23,1 (February): 84-87.

IV. Researching Library and Information Science

Beck, S. E., & Manuel, K. 2007. *Practical Research Methods for Librarians and Information Professionals*. New York: Neal-Schuman. 306 p. ISBN: 1555705916(pbk.), US $65.00

Committee Member Review:
Intended for both the novice an expert researcher, this excellent textbook provide a practical and comprehensive view of how to conduct research in our field. Susan Beck and Kate Manuel examine an array of commonly used research methodologies and exemplify their successful application with real examples of studies reported in the LIS literature.

- Jaquelina Alvarez, Jan. 2009

Published Reviews:

Glantz, S. 2008. Review of *Practical Research Methods for Librarians and Information Professionals*. *Library Media Connection* 27,1: 60.

Hilyer, L. A. 2008. Review of *Practical Research Methods for Librarians and Information Professionals*. *Journal of Academic Librarianship* 34,3 (May): 271.

Gorman, G.E., and Peter Clayton. *Qualitative research for the information professional: A practical handbook*. 2005. 2nd ed. London, UK: Facet Publishing. xxi, 282p. ISBN 1856044726 (hbk.), US $95.00

Committee Member Review:
True to its title, this is a practical, focused, and very accessible text intended for students, practitioners, and researchers in information settings. A substantial revision of the 1997 edition, with two new chapters, this book is well designed for comprehension: each chapter begins with focus questions, includes one or more illustrative research scenarios at appropriate points, and concludes with select suggestions for further readings. Subheadings, tables, figures, and lists are all effectively incorporated, both structuring and extending the text.

Guiding the reader through an introductory discussion of qualitative research and on to more detailed

Published reviews:

McDowell, Nicola. 2005. Review of *Qualitative research for the information professional: A practical handbook,* 2nd ed., by G.E. Gorman and Peter Clayton. *Library Collections, Acquisitions, and Technical Services* 29:338.

Matthews, J. R. 2007. *The Evaluation and Measurement of Library Services*. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited. 372 p. ISBN: 9781591585329. $50.00

Committee Member Review:

The author begins this by differentiating research from evaluation. While the first "is concerns about rigorous methodology and publication" the latter "employs standard research for evaluative purposes." Even though this is not purely a research textbook, practitioners, especially those in administrative positions will find useful information about systematically collecting and analyzing evidence about library programs and services.

- Jaquelina Alvarez, Jan. 2009

Published Reviews:

Nitecki, D. A. 2008. Review of *The evaluation and measurement of library services.* Library & Information Scien

- Christen Cardina, December 2005

No published reviews.

Pickard, A. 2005. *Research Methods in Information*. Facet Publishing. London, UK: Facet. 336 p. ISBN: 1856045452. $99.95

Committee Member Review:
Although this book is intended for practitioners, it can used as introductory research methods textbook for undergraduate and graduate classes. While few discussions are narrowly focused on British cases, provides a solid introduction to research methods, both qualitative and quantitative, analyzing data and presenting results.

- Jaquelina Alvarez, Jan. 2009

Published Reviews:

Ciambella, C. 2008. Review of *Research Methods in Information*. *Legal Information Alert* 27,1 (Jan.): 11-12.

Logan, R. A. 2008. Review of *Research Methods in Information*. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 96,1 (Jan.): 70-71.

M. K. 2008. Review of *Research Methods in Information*. *Internet Resources Newsletter* (May): 9-9.

Maceviciute, E. 2007. Review of *Research Methods in Information*. *Information Research* 12,4 (Oct.): 1-2. (Oct.

Committee Member Review:
The specific focus of Westbrook's book is on conducting a community information needs analysis in academic, public, and school libraries. The research methods are discussed within this context. Specifically, Chapter 4, "Framing questions and choosing tools" helps match data collection methods to research questions. It also covers development of research instruments, including the wording of questionnaires. Chapter 8, "Analyzing results" gives very brief definitions of statistical terms which would not be adequate explanations for anyone new to data analysis. As with all of the book's chapters, further reading on each topic is included. Since the book was published in 2001, the readings suggested are now somewhat dated, though all focused on library research.

The format of this work is part handbook, part instruction manual, which comes on a 3" diskette and provides many ready-to-use fo

Whitlach, Jo Bell. 2000. *Evaluating reference services: A practical guide*. Chicago: American Library

Published reviews:

Tierny, A.J. 2002. Review of *Research Design in Social Research*, by David De Vaus. *International Journal of Nursing Studies* 39:669.

Marshall, Catherine and Gretchen B. Rossman. 1999. *Designing qualitative research*, 3rd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. 224 p., ISBN: 0761913394 (hbk.), US $109.00, 0761913408 (pbk.), US $49.95

Committee Member Review:

Written for academic researchers and policy analysts, *Designing qualitative research* is a guide to writing (*designing*) successful qualitative research proposals (it is not a guide to conducting qualitative research). The authors identify and examine two major themes that run through the book: 1) the notion that "design flexibility is a crucial feature of qualitative inquiry..." and 2) the research proposal as an argument with the "primary purpose [of convincing] the reader that the research is substantive, will contribute to the field ... and that the researcher is capable of conducting the research..."

The book's introduction discusses characteristics and typologies of qualitative research, challenges of

Halcomb, Elizabeth J. 2007. Review of *Qualitative Data Analysis: An Introduction* by Carol Grbich. *Nurse Researcher* 14, 4:94.
Kzillen, Maureen and Nikki Jarrett. 2007. Review of *Qualitative Data Analysis: An Introduction* by Carol Grbich. *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 59,5:557.

Krippendorff, Klaus. 2004. *Content analysis: An introduction to its methodology*. 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc. xxiii, 413p. ISBN 0761915451 (pbk.), US $48.95

Committee Member Review:
A substantive exploration of content analysis, its procedures and protocols, this very thorough text will be usefully considered by librarians seeking to explore the behavior, attitudes, and opinions of library users by "analyzing meaningful matter, texts, images, and voices" that is, data whose physical

- Merinda McLure, March 2006

No published reviews.

Committee Member Review:
The author credits her several thousand research-methods students with giving her insights for developing practical ways to teach basic qualitative research skills. She says in her preface, "This book is for the many (out of and inside academia) who have neither access to courses on methodological issues nor time to do them, yet are confronted with a project and wish to learn how they can best deal with it." (x).

She writes as a friendly mentor, often beginning a chapter section with a question, and then succinctly answering it. She even uses exclamation marks to spur the reader on, with phrases such as, "You can do it!" The emphasis is not on teaching specific research methods (for this, she refers the reader to another book she has co-authored, *Readme first for a user's guide to qualitative method,*) as much as it is teaching the skills and understanding of the issues involved to process the data, regardless of the method used.

The book's ten chapters are divided into three parts, which include "Setting up: What's involved in starting a project"; "Working with the data: Including coding"; and "Making sense of your data: Interpreting what you have done." A unique feature of the book is the layout of each chapter using different fonts, shading, side bars, and graphics, and even icons, to produce a highly readable text. A short list of references, as well as an index is included. Recommended as a clear, practical guide for novice researchers.

- Christen Cardina, December 2005

No published reviews.

Riessman, Catherine Kohler. 1993. *Narrative analysis. Qualitative Research Methods Series*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications. vii, 78p. ISBN 0803947542 (pbk.), US $18.95

Committee Member Review:
In this slim text, Riessman introduces narrative analysis as a means to "see how respondents in interviews impose order on the flow of experience to make sense of events and actions in their lives," (2) and to explore "why was the story told that way?" (2).

Librarians may find this a brief and engaging work to consider as they design and analyze interviews, keeping in mind Riessman's note that "in qualitative interviews, typically most of the talk is not narrative but question-and-answer exchanges, arguments, and other forms of discourse" (3). While for most this text may be an enjoyable read rather than an essential reference, novice researchers may find Riessman's artful writing and discussion particularly thought provoking when considering how they are situated as researchers; in relation their interview subjects, and as active agents in the research process. Three main sections follow the introduction: "Theoretical contexts", "Practical models," and "Doing narrative analysis". The concluding two-page section, "Use and limitations of narrative analysis", is a useful alternative starting point and the comprehensive bibliography is intended to point to additional discussions of ideas only briefly introduced.

- Merinda McLure, March 2006

Published Reviews:
Arnold, Lorin Basden. 1994. Review of *Narrative analysis*, by Catherine Kohler Riessman.

Journal of Contemporary Ethnography 3:383.

VII. Case Studies

Gerring, John. 2007. *Case study research: Principles and practices.* New York: Cambridge University

Published Reviews (of the 3rd ed.):

Antoniou, M. and B. Stierer. 2004. Review of *Case study research: design and methods*, 3rd ed., by Robert K. Lin and Donald T. Campbell. *Teaching in Higher Education* 9:377.

Morris, M. 2006. Review of *Case study research: design and methods,* 3 rd ed., by Robert K. Lin and Donald T. Campbell. *Modern Language Journal* 90:140.

Review of

Bischoping, Katherine. 2002. Review of *Qualitative research interviewing*, by Tom Wengraf. *Teaching Sociology* 30:376.
Guillemette, F. 2003. Review of *Qualitative research interviewin*g, by Tom Wengraf. *Loisir & Societe-Society and Leisure* 26:273.

IX. Surveys and Questionnaires

Buckingham, Alan and Peter Saunders. 2004. *The survey methods workbook: From design to analysis.* Cambridge, UK: Polity Press. 309 p. ISBN: 0745622445 (hbk.), US $74.95

Committee Member Review:
The format of this interactive book allows the reader to learn about survey methods while participating in an actual social survey. The authors assume no prior knowledge or background in sociology or experience with social surveys or statistics. A glossary of technical terms is included. The book is divided into three parts: "Research design", "Data collection", and "Data analysis".

The section on "Research design" begins by examining when and whether you should use a survey as your instrument. The authors discuss the assumption that surveys lend themselves to positivist sociology, or the belief that knowledge can come only from those claims about the world that are directly experienced. They include background from both proponents of this approach and critics. Following this is an introduction to the issues of testing hypotheses and an overview of the types of questions that would be appropriate for a questionnaire survey. Part two, "Data collection" introduces basic principles of survey design, including how to progress from research questions to key concepts and then to the identification of core variables that represent the concepts in the questionnaire. The authors present the concepts of validity and reliability, the importance of a good response rate, and ways to avoid pitfalls in designing questions. The primary method of data collection discussed is the interview. The *Workbook*

Not so much of a how-to book as a conspectus on new technologies--mobile phones, instant messaging, social networks, video, etc.--and their effects on how and where surveys will be conducted, and survey participation and quality. The 14 chapters, "a dialogue between survey methodologists and communication technologists," should help librarians interested in conducting surveys where their users are. Useful for students in graduate research methods courses and practitioners.

-Roxanne Bogucka, Jan. 2009

No published reviews.

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de Leeuw, E.D., J.J. Hox, & D.A. Dillman. 2008. International handbook of survey methodology. New York: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. 549 pp. ISBN 0805857332 (pbk.) US $34.95.

Committee Member Review:
This book arose from the experience of two of the editors, who co-taught a survey design course at an International Statistical Institute meeting in 2003. They found that their students have emerging needs to conduct cross-national surveys and polls, and to conduct mixed-mode surveys. The chapter authors are recognized experts in statistics and survey methods. The 26 chapters are organized under five sections: Foundations—survey psychology, non-response, ethics; Design—composing and testing survey questions, sampling; Implementation—the various modes of data collection; Data Analysis—coding, weighting, incomplete data, errors; and Special Issues. Most chapters conclude with a glossary of key concepts. An accompanying website with chapter abstracts, glossaries, further readings, and Internet resources may be viewed at http://www.xs4all.nl/~edithl/surveyhandbook/. Suitable for graduate-level research methods courses.

-Roxanne Bogucka, Jan. 2009

No published reviews.

Fink, Arlene. 2003. The survey handbook. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 1*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. vii, 167p. ISBN: 0761925805 (pbk.), US $25.95
Fink, Arlene. 2003. How to ask survey questions. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 2.* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ix, 143p. ISBN: 0761925791 (pbk.), US $25.95
Bourque, Linda B., and Eve P. Fielder. 2003. How to conduct self-administered and mail surveys. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 3.* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. xiv, 249p. ISBN: 0761925627 (pbk.), US $28.95
Bourque, Linda B., and Eve P. Fielder. 2003. How to conduct telephone surveys. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 4*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. xiv, 325p. ISBN: 0761925910 (pbk.), US $32.95
Oishi, Sabine Mertens. 2003. How to conduct in-person interviews for surveys. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 5*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. xiii, 209p. ISBN: 0761925708 (pbk.), US $25.95
Fink, Arlene. 2003. How to design survey studies. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 6*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. vii, 83p. ISBN: 0761925783 (pbk.), US $19.95
Fink, Arlene. 2003. How to sample in surveys. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 7*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. iv, 75p. ISBN: 0761925775 (pbk.), US $19.95
Litwin, Mark S. 2003. How to assess and interpret survey psychometrics. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 8*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. vi, 87p. ISBN: 0761925619 (pbk.), US $19.95
Fink, Arlene. 2003. How to manage, analyze, and interpret survey data. 2nd ed. *The Survey Kit 9*.

useful chapters on types of errors in surveys, survey question design, and analyzing survey data. Fowler directs researchers needing more in-depth information to the works listed in nine pages of references.

-Roxanne Bogucka, Jan. 2009

No publis[redacted]ws.

Gillham, B. 2008. *Small-scale social survey methods*. London; New York, NY: Continuum. 111 pp. ISBN 0826496300 (pbk.) US $29.95.

Committee member review:
One of Gillham's several titles in the Real World Research Series, *Small-Scale Social Survey Methods* is aimed at the solitary survey researcher, covering in 15 short (none longer than 9 pages) chapters the basics--sampling, population selection, question design, data analysis, and reporting. It is most useful as a guidebook to consult before embarking on a survey research project, to get a sense of the scope of work required.

-Roxanne Bogucka, Jan. 2009

No published reviews.

Guppy, L. N., & Gray, G. A. 2008. *Successful surveys: Research methods and practice* (4th ed.). Toron

-Roxanne Bogucka, Jan. 2009

No published reviews.

Nardi, P. M. 2006. *Doi36*

chapters focus specifically on the writing of quality questionnaire items (for collecting factual and demographic information, measuring attitudes, and evaluating products, services, and programs): it is these chapters that particularly make the book an essential for novices. Each chapter's content is presented through a balance of succinct text and clear examples, closing with a review exercise. The book concludes with a very useful checklist summary of the guidelines presented throughout.

Appendices include information on additional computational procedures, a brief discussion of statistical significance, a useful table of random numbers, and several sample questionnaires.

- Merinda McLure, March 2006

No published reviews.

Orcher, L. T. 2007. *Conducting a survey: Techniques for a term project*. Glendale, CA: Pyrczak Pub. 140 pp. ISBN 1884585728 (pbk.) US $34.95.

Committee Member Review:
This title is a step-by-step guide for students who are completely new to survey research methods and statistics, and presents a guide to conducting the one-semester survey project. Presents very basic information, in easily digestible nuggets, and reinforces it with exercises at the end of each chapter. Orcher discusses identifying survey topics, writing literature reviews, selecting samples, finding or creating instruments, and analyzing and reporting the data. The book contains particularly handy sections on standards for surveys, and workflows and timelines for survey projects, and includes a

Committee Member Review:
Survey Research

Jaquelina Alvarez, Caroline Barratt , Roxanne Bogucka, Christopher Cox (Chair), Amy Deuink, Ramona Islam, Catherine Johnson (Intern).