PAI 705 Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Exam 1

McPeak March 3, 2020

Exam is 20 points. There are 10 questions. Each question is worth 2 points. If there are sub questions, each part is worth an equal share of the 2 points.

1. We discussed three purposes of social science research. We have also discussed different social science research sampling methods. Below are listed three short descriptions of social science research. For each, identify which is the main purpose of the research and identify the sampling strategy used in the research.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Research Description | Purpose | Sampling Strategy |
| I have been working with the Near East Foundation (NEF), an NGO based here in Syracuse, on developing ideas for training centers based in Jordan to work collaboratively with Syrian refugees and local Jordanians. We are trying to develop a list of the inputs produced by local producers in Jordan (olives, cucumbers, fruits, leather,…) to match with the value added processing skills that exist in the Syrian refugee population (olive oil producer, pickle maker, jam maker, belt maker,…) to form production cooperatives. We have our enumerators invite people to answer some questions under the trees near the mosque after Friday prayers where both groups worship. We have them ask people questions to develop a sense of the kinds of inputs and value added processing that are present. We hope to use this information to develop a more formal quantitative survey that will be implemented using random sampling in the future. |  |  |
| In the West Bank, NEF has been working for the past 10 years to bring Palestinian olive producers and Israeli olive producers together into olive oil producing cooperatives to develop a sense of collaboration and cooperation. The concept is to develop a broader sense of collaboration around this production activity that will foster the prospects of peaceful resolution of territorial conflict in the West Bank. NEF is planning to conduct a Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices survey of a random sample of program participants and non-participants to identify the effectiveness of the cooperation -building work of the past 10 years to the USAID funders of the program. They hope to use the results to explain to USAID why this funding should be renewed and the program expanded. |  |  |
| NEF is trying to open up program activities in Libya. One possible activity supports camel marketing. Historically, trans-Saharan camel marketing has been a major economic activity in Libya. Following the death of Gaddafi in 2011, the market fell apart in the climate of insecurity. In the past 3 years, there has been a resurgence of the trans-Saharan camel trade towards Tripoli, Misrata, and Sirte. Our local contact in the federation of meat sellers has introduced us to all the traders he works with in these three cities. We are conducting a survey of livestock traders to figure out the seasonal profile of when camels are abundant and when they are scarce and what prices they are paying / receiving. We are trying to develop a sense of where the animals are coming from. We are trying to understand if there is a market for female camels distinct from male camels. With this detailed understanding of the market, we hope to write funding proposals to improve the efficiency of camel marketing. |  |  |

2) Contrast inductive and deductive reasoning.

3) Research Ethics.

* 1. What are the three basic ethical principles of the Belmont Report?
  2. What was Stanley Milgram’s study trying to investigate and why?
  3. Why is there an ethical controversy over Milgram’s study?

4) Measurement Issues.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Measured item | Category of this measured item (circle one) |
| Progressive views of Warren voters. | Direct observable Indirect observable Construct |
| The number of male goats a head of a household reports that they own currently. | Direct observable Indirect observable Construct |
| The number of male goats I counted when I enter the household compound. | Direct observable Indirect observable Construct |
| Ideational factors (such as culture, perceptions, ideology, beliefs, etc.) I use in my research when explaining international outcomes. | Direct observable Indirect observable Construct |
| How many people are in this room right now? | Direct observable Indirect observable Construct |
| Is it snowing right now? | Direct observable Indirect observable Construct |
| Answers to a 48-hour recall question on all food and drink consumed in the household. | Direct observable Indirect observable Construct |
| What the Ease of Doing Business Index measures. | Direct observable Indirect observable Construct |

5) Index and scale issues.

Assume you have results from a survey. One set of questions that is asked of respondents is: How do you view the idea of closing all US borders to stop the spread of the COVID-19 Virus.?

Approach A

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very | Somewhat | Neither | Somewhat | Very |  |
| Misguided |  |  |  |  |  | Well Informed |
| Overdue |  |  |  |  |  | Premature |
| Unjustified |  |  |  |  |  | Justified |
| Harmful to US economy |  |  |  |  |  | Beneficial to US economy |

1. What is this approach to asking a question called?
2. What do you need to consider when deciding to use the responses to these questions as components of an index or components of a scale?

6) True or False.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Statement | Is it True or False (circle) |
| Confidentiality means a given response cannot be linked to a given respondent even by the researcher. | True False |
| Ideographic explanation seeks an exhaustive understanding of the causes producing events and situations in a single or limited number of cases. | True False |
| A random sample is an example of an equal probability of selection method. | True False |
| Predictive validity is concerned with how much the chosen measure covers the range of meanings included within a concept. | True False |
| The Humphrey effect describes how people may change behavior as a response to the knowledge that they are being observed rather than the treatment that is being evaluated. | True False |
| The inductive method begins with a set of observations, and analyzes these observations to find patterns in the data to develop a theory. | True False |
| Structural functionalism monitors a given characteristic of the population over time using different samples. | True False |
| Randomly sampling landline phone numbers from the white pages is currently used as an effective sampling method to generate a representative sample of the United States population. | True False |

7) Measures.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Item measured** | **What kind of measure is it? (circle)** |
| The individual falls into one of 6 different age and gender categories: male under 16, female under 16, male 16-55, female 16-55, male over 55, female over 55. | Nominal Ordinal Interval |
| Adjusted Gross Income value when a household files taxes in April 2020. | Nominal Ordinal Interval |
| Was the Cool Ranch ad [better than, same as, worse than] the Snickers ad? | Nominal Ordinal Interval |
| Did you laugh at the Snickers ad at the end when the selfie people fell in the hole? Yes or No | Nominal Ordinal Interval |
| Ranking of the best IR masters programs for a policy career in IR. | Nominal Ordinal Interval |
| How many other graduate programs did you apply to the year you applied for this graduate program at SU? | Nominal Ordinal Interval |
| Did you get your undergraduate degree in the United States or outside of the United states? | Nominal Ordinal Interval |
| How many degrees Fahrenheit above or below ‘comfortable’ do you find Maxwell 110 to be today? | Nominal Ordinal Interval |

8) Reliability and Validity. In trying to understand what is happening in North Korea, CSIS has conducted two kinds of surveys in 2018. One survey sampled 180 individuals from the 30,000 North Koreans who are living as refugees in South Korea. Another survey that was allowed by the North Korean government interviewed 35 military officers living in Pyongyang.

* 12% of the sampled refugee population reported that the North Korean government’s current food distribution system fully met the food security needs of the North Korean population. 77% reported that there was food being distributed through private markets and barter exchange.
* 100% of the military officers reported that the North Korean government’s current food distribution system fully met the food security needs of the North Korean population. 0% reported that there was food being distributed through private markets and barter exchange.

a) Illustrate the concepts of reliability and validity by discussing what you would expect the responses to look like if CSIS was to conduct another survey of 35 military officers in 2020.

b) Illustrate the concept of validity by contrasting the responses of the refugee population to the responses of the military officials.

c) In the sample from the refugee population, the sampling strategy required that individuals interviewed had to have left North Korea in the past three years to be included in the survey. They said they did this to strengthen the validity of the results. Why would this help with validity?

9) Assign the name of the scale to the description.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Put name of scale here | Description of scale |
|  | A type of composite measure where scores are assigned by ‘judges’ to assess the strength of particular indicators. |
|  | Results from questions that pair two opposite adjectives and have respondents place their reaction on their degree of closeness to either adjective. |
|  | A scale that is based on the idea that people who support a strong indicator of a variable will also support weaker indicators of this variable so there are ‘scale types’ of response patterns. |
|  | Captures the willingness of people to participate in social relations of varying degrees of closeness with other kinds of people. |
|  | Symmetric scale centered on neutral that captures a range of responses both negative and positive. |

10) Definitions and contrasts.

a. Contrast a trend study and a cohort study.

b. Contrast an index measure and a scale measure.

c. Contrast a cross sectional study and a panel study.

* 1. Contrast a necessary cause with a sufficient cause.