

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 for 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
The research team was attempting to identify the degree of child malnutrition in a rural community in Mali. They conducted interviews of households coming to a community health clinic over a three-day period using a structured survey form to record the overall roster of ages, gender, and education levels for all household members. For all children under 5 who came with their parent to the clinic, measures were taken on childrens mid-upper arm circumference. For all children under 15 who came to the clinic, height for age and weight for age were collected. For all children, a 24 hour dietary recall was administered.		
The research team was attempting to understand vectors of ISIS inspired radicalization the children of youth whose parents had immigrated from the horn of Africa which is currently poorly understood. They began interviewing youth who were children of immigrants from the horn of Africa who were participating in an after school basketball program run by an NGO. From there, they developed a network of youth who had been radicalized, their friends, families, and teachers. They conducted interviews with these different people to develop specific definitions and indicators of what exactly was meant by 'ISIS inspired radicalization' to use in a later quantitative study.		
The research team has a hypothesis that higher exposure to lead contamination for recently arrived immigrants arriving from the Horn of Africa is leading to learning and behavioral problems for the children of the immigrant families. The research involves reconstructing arrival dates in the United States for these immigrants, records of known residences since arrival, and a checklist of learning and behavioral problems the children may have experienced since arriving. Blood tests are drawn for all of the youth under 18 to identify blood lead content. An index is constructed of behavioral issues and an index is constructed of learning issues. These are regressed on the blood lead content and other covariates to test the theory that lead contamination is correlated with behavioral and learning problems.		

2) Elements of social theory.

You are conducting research on the fishing communities of the islands of West Africa. You note that there seem to be two landing points for the fishing boats as they come in. When you stroll over to the two landing sites, you see there is a pattern. The boats to the south are full of fish and fish nets, and there is a thriving market full of market women who sell the fish to people who want to buy the fish. The boats to the north all have boxes in them that are covered by a thin layer of fish and fish nets. You also note that armed men with Land Cruisers are collecting the boxes and putting them in the Land Cruisers, and handing the owners of the boats envelopes full of something. There is no thriving fish market here, and the fishermen appear to be roasting the catch they brought in for their personal consumption. As you hear small airplanes taking off from near the north beach, you jot down your ideas about what might be driving the market for the fish and what might be driving the market for what you speculate is in the boxes.

Distinguish between observations, facts, and laws / principles in the paragraph above.

4) Measurement Issues.

Measured item	Category of this measured item (circle one)		
Intelligence Quotient (IQ) from a test	Direct observable	Indirect observable	Construct
Height measured with a tape measure.	Direct observable	Indirect observable	Construct
Reported vote in last presidential election	Direct observable	Indirect observable	Construct
Empathy categorized by responses to Lickert questions	Direct observable	Indirect observable	Construct
Facial reaction to Puppy-Monkey-Baby ad	Direct observable	Indirect observable	Construct
PAIRA IR Town Hall minutes	Direct observable	Indirect observable	Construct
Writes signature using right or left hand.	Direct observable	Indirect observable	Construct
Ranking for best policy oriented IR Master's program.	Direct observable	Indirect observable	Construct

5) Index and scale issues.

Assume you have results from 5 survey responses to questions about the appropriate level of US military involvement in the Syrian crisis.

Statement	Responses	
The US has no legitimate military interest in Syria and should stay out of any conflict there.	Agree	Disagree
The US military should provide air cover for safe havens to allow Syrians to travel to refugee camps in Jordan and Turkey	Agree	Disagree
The US military should provide on the ground training and military equipment for the Free Syrian Army.	Agree	Disagree
The US military should use special forces units to eliminate leaders of both IS and the Assad regime who have committed human rights violations.	Agree	Disagree
The US military should collaborate in a coalition of forces with a United Nations mandate to conduct peacekeeping operations in Syria.	Agree	Disagree
The US military should invade Syria and establish a US sanctioned Provisional Authority to administrate the occupied territory.	Agree	Disagree

a) Contrast using these responses to construct an index with using them to construct a scale.

b) What is the logic by which the responses to these questions could possibly be used as a scale? What kinds of responses are possible that might defy the logic of potential scale construction?

c) What test could you use to assess whether the scale scores are preferable to the index scores or not?

6) Time, data, and research design.

a. What does it mean if someone describes a study as longitudinal?

b. Contrast a trend study to a cohort study.

c. Contrast a cohort study to a panel study.

7) 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
Quota sampling requires that you have information about the overall population's characteristics.	True	False
A snowball sample is an example of an equal probability of selection method.	True	False
A positivist approach identifies the presence of unequal wages by gender as an objective for social policy to correct.	True	False
Disclosure of the Tuskegee syphilis experiments from 1932 to 1972 influenced the 1979 Belmont report.	True	False
Concepts such as good governance and participation are directly measurable in tangible way.	True	False
Durkheim applied the term <i>anomie</i> to describe the behavior of individuals in the book <i>Tearoom Trade</i> .	True	False

8) Measures.

Item measured	What kind of measure is it? (circle)			
GRE test results	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Age	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Gender	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Degree of religious orientation	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Place of birth	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Adjusted Gross Income in 2015	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Number of Graduate School Credits earned to date	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Did you get your teeth cleaned in the last 6 months?	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio

9) Evaluating measures.

a. What does it mean if a measure is reliable but not valid?

b. What does it mean if a measure is valid but not reliable?

c. Contrast the following concepts: Criterion related / predictive validity, Content validity, Construct validity, Face validity. The proposed measure is the number of months of home consumption from grain harvested from a household's fields last year. The concept is household food security. The setting is a rural village in a developing country. For each concept provide one reason why the measure might be valid by this concept and why it might not be valid by this concept.

Criterion	Valid
	Not valid
Content	Valid
	Not valid
Construct	Valid
	Not valid
Face	Valid
	Not valid

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

Put name of scale here	Description of scale
	Results from questions that pair two opposite adjectives and have respondents place their reaction on their degree of closeness to either adjective.
	Symmetric scale centered on zero that captures a range of responses both negative and positive
	A type of composite measure where weights are assigned by 'judges' to assess the strength of particular indicators
	Captures the willingness of people to participate in social relations of varying degrees of closeness with other kinds of people.
	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.