Course Description PS3FOM2

Research Methods 2,
Forskningsmetodik 2.
HT21

210927

7.5 credits, third cycle, full time

Course coordinator / teacher /examinator
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Language
English.

Prerequisites and conditions for access to the course:
Admitted to third cycle studies in social science research subject, including public health.

Course Coordinator:
Department of Psychology, Stockholm University
Introduction
Psychological testing/assessment is a central part of both research and internship. The essence of evaluating testing is the term validity. The chosen definition of validity may differ depending on the research question. For more than 100 years, the definition of validity has been discussed in psychological research. This course is designed to enable PhD students to evaluate a variety of validity definitions used in psychological research (e.g., personality, abilities, attitudes, values, and related psychological constructs). This course addresses the following

- Philosophical theories about validity
- Reading of classical articles regarding psychological testing validity
- Classical Test Theory (CTT)
- Generalizability Theory (GT)
- Item Response Theory (IRT)
- Relation between reliability and validity
- Causality in measurement
- Interpretation of test results

After completing the course, the student will be able to:

After successful completion of the course, students will be prepared to define validity and evaluate psychological assessments that are targeted toward specific measurement purposes.

Learning environment
Active participation in the seminars. The work of evaluating a specific measurement tool is exemplified by using R and Rstudio. Bring your own computer, preferably with your own dataset.

Examination
The task is to write an individually theoretical and/or empirical paper (APA style) with a definition of validity and evaluate a psychological assessment process that are targeted toward
specific measurement purposes. The study shall answer an important validity problem in your own research field.

The paper shall include:

- An introduction with a theoretical rationale for the definition of validity
- At least two examples of how the chosen definition of validity can be used within your own field of research
- Empirical results using CTT, GT and/or IRT
- The author shall discuss advantages and disadvantages for the suggested definition of validity in relationship with the empirical results

The written paper shall be uploaded on Athena (date given at the beginning of the course). The examiner will provide written feedback within two weeks and the students will then have the opportunity rewrite the paper within two weeks. The examiner will provide individual student grade on the final version of the paper.

**Grades and grade criteria**

*To be approved, a written reflection is required after each main lecture (CTT, IRT and GT).*

**Pass.** For a passing grade the student achieved the expected learning outcomes of the course shown in the paper

**Fail.** The validity paper is insufficiently in such a way that the expected learning outcomes are not met.

Students who have not been approved have the opportunity to rewrite the paper.

**Plagiarism and self-plagiarism**

It is of course permissible to quote other sources, but both direct and indirect quotes must always be provided with correct and complete reference data. Copying or printing of a shorter or longer section and identifying oneself as the author of the text is prohibited. It is considered plagiarism. It is not allowed in the longer pieces to quote your own previous graded texts (so-called self-plagiarism). Plagiarism is regarded as a fundamental breach, not only against an established research ethics code, but also on a general approach to their own and others' texts.
Plagiarism is unauthorized cheats and will always be the subject of a disciplinary matter, which can lead to suspension.

**Literature**


**Articles**


Instructions Individual assignment (with deadlines) PS3FOM2

In this assignment you will write an article summarizing the result of psychometric analyses of your own data. The assignment gives training on all elements of practical data analyses: selecting appropriate psychometric methods. I strongly suggest that you work on your own measurement problem, that is, results you intend to publish and include in your thesis. You will receive feedback from reviewers and this may help you to improve the presentation of your results.

The following steps are part of the assignment:

1. **Check-up seminar (2 december)**
   At the check-up seminar, you present your validity definition, and plan for the paper and any questions you want to discuss to help you to write up the paper. You will have 15 min for a slideshow presentation (maximum 10 slides).

2. **Check-up seminar (7 december)**
   At the check-up seminar, you present your validity definition, and the plan for the paper and any questions you want to discuss to help you to write up the paper.

**First Deadline:** Upload your submitted version for publications in the *Applied Psychological Measurement* on Athena no later than 23 Dec at 12 AM.

2. Write the article for the *Applied Psychological Measurement* (https://uk.sagepub.com/en-gb/eur/journal/applied-psychological-measurement#description)

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<tr>
<th>Guidelines</th>
<th>Max 20 words, Example: “Studies of work commitment: theoretical and psychometric considerations”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong></td>
<td>Max 20 words, Example: “Studies of work commitment: theoretical and psychometric considerations”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Author:</strong></td>
<td>Your name and affiliation</td>
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<td><strong>Abstract:</strong></td>
<td>Max 150 words</td>
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<td><strong>Main text:</strong></td>
<td>Word limitation: 2,500 words (including headings, but not captions and reference list).</td>
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<td><strong>Reference list:</strong></td>
<td>Max 20 items</td>
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<td><strong>Appendix:</strong></td>
<td>Code for analyses (R script) No size limitation. Make sure it is annotated so reviewers can follow the code.</td>
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Note that the style of the most recent edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association must be followed with respect to handling of references, footnotes, tables and figures, and abbreviations and symbols.

https://uk.sagepub.com/en-gb/eur/journal/applied-psychological-measurement#submission-guidelines

**Final Deadline:** Upload your final version for publications in the *Applied Psychological Measurement* on Athena no later than 7 Jan at 12 AM.