



Scale Development: Theory and Applications (Applied Social Research Methods)

By Robert F. DeVellis

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This book presents complex concepts in a way that helps students to understand the logic underlying the creation, use, and evaluation of measurement instruments and to develop a more intuitive feel for how scales work. Robert DeVellis demystifies measurement by relating it to familiar experiences and by emphasizing a conceptual rather than a strictly mathematical understanding. Students' attention is drawn to important concepts that are foundational for subsequent topics, with opportunities provided to test understanding through chapter summaries and exercises.

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- Sales Rank: #372946 in Books
- Brand: Brand: SAGE Publications, Inc
- Published on: 2011-06-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.75" h x 5.50" w x .50" l, .57 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 216 pages



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Editorial Review

Review

“**Scale Development** is readable, concise, and affordable. Students like the book. It presents formulas but doesn’t emphasize them but rather emphasizes utility, and the book is well-suited for an audience with applied interests.” (Kathy E. Green)

“The key strength of this text is its ability to present the basic and necessary background on scale construction and measurement for the subsequent material, either in the context of the same first-year graduate course or in future courses during a masters and PhD program.” (René Bautista)

“The author has a very nice writing style that makes reasonably complicated technical concepts clear to students who are accessing them for the first time.” (Catherine Horn)

“This book does an excellent job in explaining complicated topics in test construction at a level that students can understand. The use of specific examples that demonstrate key points is very effective.” (Jonathan Feldman)

From the Inside Flap

Praise for the First Edition:

“Very readable, well organized, and straightforward. I would recommend this book for practitioners, graduate students, and faculty members who are seeking a practical, rather than a psychometric, treatment of scale development. This book offers a clear overview for those interested in the development and validation of measurement scales.”

About the Author

Prior to retiring in 2012, Robert F. DeVellis was Professor in the Department of Health Behavior, (Gillings School of Global Public Health) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. DeVellis has more than 35 years of experience in the measurement of psychological and social variables. He has been an active member of the Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS) consortium, a multisite National Institutes of Health (NIH) Roadmap initiative directed at identifying, modifying, testing, and disseminating outcome measures for use by NIH investigators. His role in PROMIS was as network-wide domain chair for Social Outcomes. He has served on the Board of Directors for the American Psychological Association’s Division of Health Psychology (38), on the Arthritis Foundation’s Clinical/Outcomes/Therapeutics Research Study Section, and on the Advisory Board of the Veterans Affairs Measurement Excellence Initiative. He is the recipient of the 2005 Distinguished Scholar Award from the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals and is an associate editor of *Arthritis Care and Research*. In addition, he has served as guest editor, guest associate editor, or reviewer for more than two dozen other journals. He has served as principal investigator or co-investigator since the early 1980s on a series of research projects funded by the federal government and private foundations. He remains intellectually active in his editorial role and as a consultant on a variety of projects.

Users Review

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Mindy Munson:

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