

Speaking Notes
PADM 5502
January 23, 2019
Dr. Neubauer

WHERE WE ARE

- This is our second class meeting
- I am making progress on our syllabus.
- <http://www.robertcat.net/spring2019/padm5502/site/syllabus5502spring2019.pdf>
- I also need to set up assignment boxes in GeorgiaView.
- You do not have any assignments yet.

PARTIAL REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK

What are some of the common motivations to do (and report) research?

What is the difference between primary and secondary research?

What are the differences between the social sciences and the physical sciences?

What is it about social science that makes it "messier" than the physical sciences?

What is the difference between qualitative and quantitative research?

What are the differences between an interview, a focus group interview, and a survey?

What does it mean to say that we usually do aggregate research?

What is a hypothesis and what does it mean to use data to test a hypothesis?

Why is survey research of practical use to public administrators?

ADDITIONAL NEW MATERIAL TODAY

Chapter 2 is about EVIDENCED-BASED practice, in medicine, education and public management.

(Let's not worry about a possible distinction between public administration and public management.)

Public administrators are not mere "puppets" of elected political leaders who make policy decisions about how to try to solve social problems and provided needed social services.

NEEDS ANALYSIS is usually about understanding how citizens perceive social problems and their (dis)satisfaction with government services received.

EVIDENCE-BASED means how programs should be designed to accomplish intended results. You cannot identify BEST PRACTICES without doing research to identify what works (and what does not work) under different circumstances.

As one of my colleagues here likes to say, "Let's not reinvent the wheel."

Research (both primary and secondary) can help public administrators become more responsive to public needs and not waste money by doing things that are not EVIDENCE-BASED and that are not likely to be very successful.

Let's look now at a survey one of my students created several years ago. It is not "perfect." In fact it has some fairly important mistakes. It is useful for instructional purposes now.

Survey on Attitudes Toward Economic Relocation

This survey is research being conducted by a graduate student at Albany State University. The purpose of the survey is to better understand under what circumstances people are willing to move from a community. Participation in this research is voluntary. If you choose to participate you can skip any question(s) you may not want to answer. Please mark your answers and do not put your name on the survey.

1. For how many years have you lived in Albany, Georgia? _____ years
2. Please indicate your gender.
 Female Male
3. Please indicate your age.
_____ years
4. Please indicate your marital status.
 Single Engaged Married Divorced Widowed
5. How many children are dependent upon you? _____
6. How many adults live in your household? _____
7. How many dependent children live in your household? _____
8. Please indicate your household's approximate annual income a year. \$_____

9. Please indicate highest level of education.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
High School	Technical Degree	Bachelor Degree	Master's Degree	Doctorate Degree

10. Are you presently employed? yes no

11. If yes to the question above, how secure do you feel your job is?

<input type="checkbox"/>	my job is very secure
<input type="checkbox"/>	my job is fairly secure
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am concerned about possible job loss.

Please indicate your agreement or disagreement with each of the following statements:

12. I feel attachment to Albany, Georgia.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

13. If I had to leave Albany I would miss being in Albany very much.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

14. I could leave Albany without much missing being in Albany.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

15. I have many close personal friends in Albany.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

16. I feel strongly attached to Albany because I have family members here.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

17. If unemployed I would move elsewhere if necessary to find work.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

18. If I were to become unemployed I would do everything possible to find local employment rather than moving from Albany to find employment.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

19. I have skills that employers value highly.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

20. I frequently communicate with others online to keep in touch.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

21. Talking to loved ones on the telephone is an adequate substitute for talking with them in person.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

Please answer the following question if you are buying the home that you now occupy in Albany.

22. It would be difficult for me to leave Albany because I am buying a house here.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

[continued]

Please answer the following question if you own a business in Albany.

23. It would be difficult for me to leave Albany because I own a business here.

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

Thank you for participating in this research project.

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LEVELS OF DATA

Which of the questions above are asked at the NOMINAL level of data?

Which of the questions above are asked at the ORDINAL level of data?

Which of the questions above are asked at the INTERVAL level of data?

(RATIO level data is interval with a natural 0.)

Can age be asked at the ORDINAL level of data?

How?

Can age be asked at the INTERVAL level of data?

How?

If age is asked at the ordinal level, can the resulting data be "upgraded" to the interval level?

If age is asked at the interval level, can the resulting data be "downgraded" to the ordinal level?

Why might you want to ask the age question at the ordinal level of measurement rather than at the interval level of measurement?

Is ordinal data or interval data more precise?