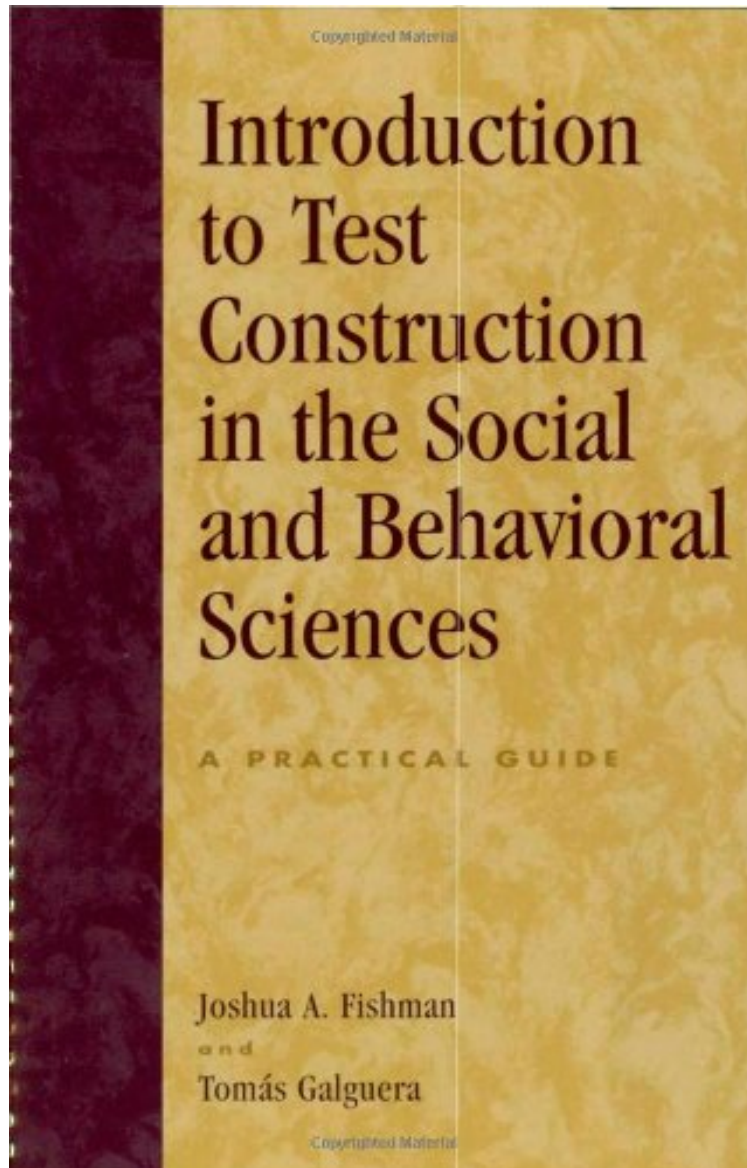


Introduction to Test Construction in the Social and Behavioral Sciences: A Practical Guide

Joshua A. Fishman, Toms Galguera
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Galguera have created an extremely useful guide for students setting out to create their first test instrument. While most of the material will probably be covered in different courses during graduate school, this summarizes all the pitfalls, hard learned lessons and tricks of the trade in one very readable (and suprisingly short) volume. While the reader is expected to have a very basic understanding of statistics, you will not need any specific statistics knowledge in order to benefit from this book. The authors include plenty of examples and figures to help those who have been out of a stats classroom for too long. The main focus of the authors is on helping the reader make sure that their tests are valid and reliable. To do so, they walk the reader through the stages of scale development, focusing on testing and re-testing scales before the data analysis starts. Pick this up when you're ready to start designing your first scale. You'll be happy you did. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Rainelle Harrell Met my expectations 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Book for course work, interesting concepts, good price By Chrissy C. Book for course work, interesting concepts, good price

This book offers beginning researchers in psychology and education with limited statistics backgrounds a practical, hands-on guide to the preparation, assessment, and development of quantitative research instruments. With the explicit goal in mind of making the text accessible to readers with only a beginning level of statistical expertise, the authors include numerous examples and figures to illustrate necessary concepts and procedures, while minimizing jargon. The book includes an appendix with directions for the required statistical analyses for readers with access to SPSS. The organization of the book into two sections, theoretical and practical, with complementary chapters in each section, results in a practical and versatile resource to have in a variety of contexts. Because of its versatility, the book may be used either as a textbook for courses on test construction and instrument design or quantitative research methods in psychology and education, as a reference for researchers using and constructing quantitative instruments, or as background reading for professionals in related fields.

About the Author Joshua A. Fishman is Distinguished University Professor Emeritus in Social Sciences at Yeshiva University, and visiting professor at Stanford University [Linguistics and Education], New York University [Multiculturalism] and CUNY-Graduate Center [Linguistics]. Toms Galguera is an associate professor in the Teachers for Tomorrow's Schools teacher education program at Mills College and a fellow at the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.