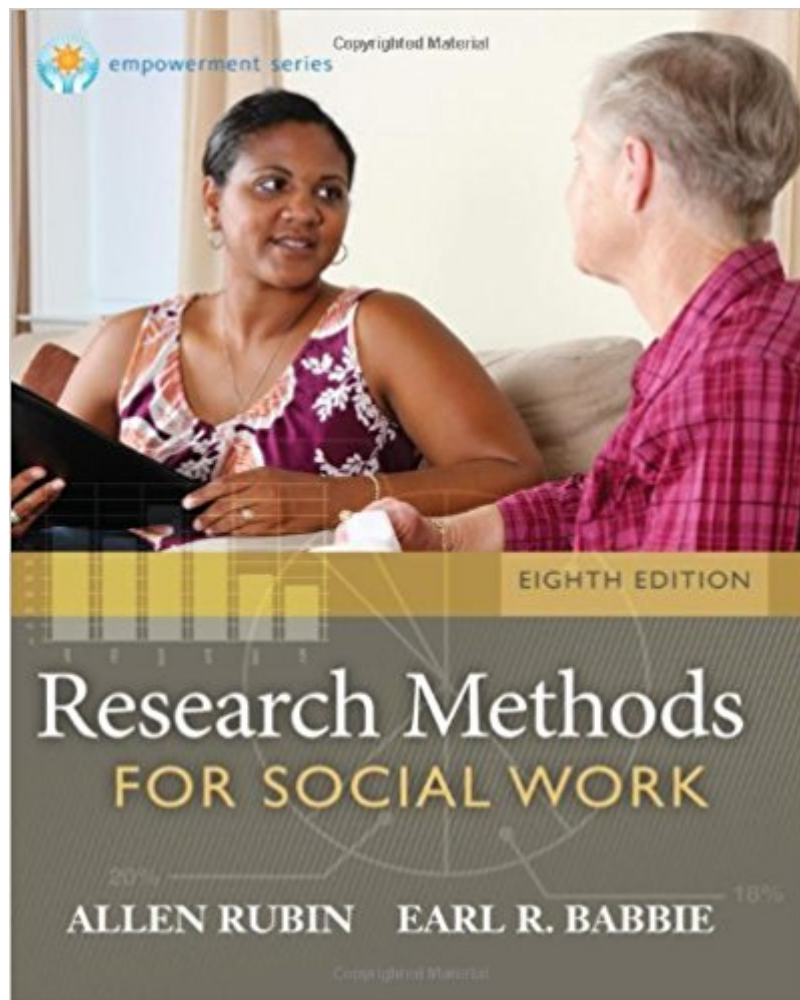




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# Research Methods For Social Work, 8th Edition (Brooks/Cole Empowerment Series)



## Synopsis

Acclaimed for its depth and breadth of coverage as well as for the authors' clear and often humorous writing style, RESEARCH METHODS FOR SOCIAL WORK strikes an optimal balance of quantitative and qualitative research techniques--illustrating how the two methods complement one another. Now in its Eighth Edition, Allen Rubin and Earl R. Babbie's classic bestseller combines a comprehensive presentation of all aspects of the research endeavor with a thoroughly reader-friendly approach--helping you overcome the fear factor often associated with the subject matter. Relevant examples from real-world settings highlight the connections between research and social work practice. Available with InfoTrac Student Collections <http://gocengage.com/infotrac>.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Part I: AN INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY IN SOCIAL WORK. 1. Why Study Research? 2. Evidence-Based Practice. 3. Philosophy and Theory in Social Work Research. Part II: THE ETHICAL, POLITICAL, AND CULTURAL CONTEXT OF SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH. 4. The Ethics and Politics of Social Work Research. 5. Culturally Competent Research. Part III: PROBLEM FORMULATION AND MEASUREMENT. 6. Problem Formulation. 7. Conceptualization and Operationalization. 8. Measurement. 9. Constructing Measurement Instruments. Part IV: DESIGNS FOR EVALUATING PROGRAMS AND PRACTICE. 10. Causal Inference and Quasi-Experimental Designs. 11. Experimental Designs. 12. Single-Case Evaluation Designs. 13. Program Evaluation. Part V: DATA-COLLECTION METHODS WITH LARGE SOURCES OF DATA. 14. Sampling. 15.

Survey Research. 16. Analyzing Existing Data: Quantitative and Qualitative Methods. Part VI: QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS. 17. Qualitative Research: General Principles. 18. Qualitative Research: Specific Methods. 19. Qualitative Data Analysis. Part VII: ANALYSIS OF QUANTITATIVE DATA. 20. Quantitative Data Analysis. 21. Inferential Data Analysis: Part 1. 22. Inferential Data Analysis: Part 2. Part VIII: WRITING RESEARCH PROPOSALS AND REPORTS. 23. Writing Research Proposals and Reports. Appendix A: Using the Library. Appendix B: Statistics for Estimating Sampling Error. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Allen Rubin has been doing and teaching research since 1976, when he received his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Renowned in social work, Dr. Rubin has written several research texts, published numerous research studies on social work practice, and is a past president of the Society for Social Work and Research. Earl R. Babbie graduated from Harvard University before enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, and began teaching shortly thereafter. Credited with defining research methods for the social sciences, Dr. Babbie has written several texts, including the bestselling THE PRACTICE OF SOCIAL RESEARCH and THE BASICS OF SOCIAL RESEARCH.

This textbook was simply "okay". While the authors did break up the text with humor, the problem lies in the fact that the text was far too wordy for what they were trying to describe. Another reviewer mentioned having to search for other resources to clarify the authors' meanings and I and my classmates absolutely had to do the same for our research course. Too wordy, far too densely packed in, and basic definitions are never delivered in such a way that they are easy to thumb back to when you need a refresher. The authors are at their best when they utilize lengthy "case study" type examples and compare how they would work utilizing one design or instrument versus another. It is through these examples that they usually describe the finer details of certain aspects of research that will come in handy later. It is not a bad book. However, if you are trying to determine which books you want to buy and which you rent, I highly recommend only renting this one.

Had to rent this book for a class. Pointless unless you're still in middle/high school and have learned nothing about research methods. A good example of a book using its function to make money off of students with little effort from the authors to bring anything of real substance to the material. I know there's not much to expect from a general book like this with basic overview of research methods, but it could have been a little more specialized to the topic to where I couldn't easily google

everything that it was talking about, and finding better explanations of concepts elsewhere for.

The course was hard. Many times I hated not just this book, but life itself. Ripping the hair off my arm seemed more merciful. Frankly this course should be used as a CIA torture device. Or a way to drive people insane. It really is that awful. Unless you are deviant who enjoys intricate things with no right answers just for the sake of fun debate. Blah ha ha.

Either way, don't expect any book on this topic to be a dummy's guide. Stay at a Holiday Inn express. Maybe you'll understand it. This book is likely as good as it's gonna get to simplify this course. My book had about a thousand posts with notes. Why? Well you know the image of a dead horse? Yeah they beat it INTO the ground making explanations. And when you're doing, you're wondering where the day went. I can almost speed read and twenty pages took me two days. That's about a chapter. Why? Well I'd read an excerpt, eat massive chocolates, roam the house like a prison, banged my head, dreamed with my eyes open....Still, the authors tried. One book. One course... You haven't learned a thing. But you can sit and listen to professors have a discussion and understand 10%. You can read a scholarly article and say, hey, I recall that word. I don't know how the heck they did the math, but I know they have nifty computers to do that quantitative research. Hahahahahaha. Read it anyway. If you decide you want a DSW, you'll do research til you croak. Or if you desperately want an answer to some complex puzzle, you'll have to align with a senior social worker and do this. You'll only learn this by doing. And even then, a lifetime of doing and you won't perfect it. But you gotta start somewhere. So yes, I hated this book, mainly because the work was just impossibly hard. But that wasn't the book's fault. That was the fault of my hard head, exhaustion and difficult concepts. Now that I'm on the other side, I'll hide the book awhile, forget the agony of it, and enjoy reading scholarly articles with more insight and a frame of reference. I can't judge the authors on the material, only their take on it, and it wasn't bad. I don't know anything about anything still, but I can pretend as if I had stayed at the holiday inn express.

Face it... This material is hard. The course was hard. Many times I hated not just this book, but life itself. Ripping the hair off my arm seemed more merciful. Frankly this course should be used as a CIA torture device. Or a way to drive people insane. It really is that awful. Unless you are deviant who enjoys intricate things with no right answers just for the sake of fun debate. Blah ha ha.

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good as it's gonna get to simplify this course. My book had about a thousand post its with notes. Why? Well you know the image of a dead horse? Yeah they beat it INTO the ground making explanations. And when you're doing, you're wondering where the day went. I can almost speed read and twenty pages took me two days. That's about a chapter. Why? Well I'd read an except, eat massive chocolates, roam the house like a prison, banged my head, dreamed with my eyes open....Still, the authors tried. One book. One course... You haven't learned a thing. But you can sit and listen to professors have a discussion and understand 10%. You can read a scholarly article and say, hey, I recall that word. I don't know how the heck they did the math, but I know they have nifty computers to do that quantitative research. Hahahahahaha.Read it anyway. If you decide you want a DSW, you'll do research til you croak. Or if you desperately want an answer to some complex puzzle, you'll have to align with a senior social worker and do this. You'll only learn this by doing. And even then, a lifetime of doing and you won't perfect it. But you gotta start somewhere. So yes, I hated this book, mainly because the work was just impossibly hard. But that wasn't the books fault. That was the fault of my hard head, exhaustion and difficult concepts. Now that I'm on the other side, I'll hide the book awhile, forget the agony of it, and enjoy reading scholarly articles with more insight and a frame of reference. I can't judge the authors on the material, only their take on it, and it wasn't bad. I don't know anything about anything still, but I can pretend as if I had stayed at the holiday inn express.

Garbage material...Makes you feel guilty for being born what you were born as.

For school, great book

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