



Research Design in Aging and Social Gerontology: Quantitative, Qualitative, and Mixed Methods (Textbooks in Aging)

Joyce Weil

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Research Design in Aging and Social Gerontology provides a review of methodological approaches and data-collection methods commonly used with older adults in real-life settings. It addresses the role of normative age-related sensory, cognitive, and functional changes, as well as the influence of generational cohort (age-period-cohort) upon each design. It discusses the role of older adults as true co-researchers, issues uniquely related to studies of persons residing in community-based, assisted, skilled, and memory-care settings; and ethical concerns related to cognitive status changes. The text concludes with detailed guidelines to improve existing data-collection methods for older persons and how to select the best-fitting methodologies for use in planning research on aging studies.

Features of *Research Design in Aging and Social Gerontology* include:

- Descriptions and evaluations of a wide range of existing methodological approaches, and methods used to collect data about older persons (quantitative, qualitative, mixed, and emergent methods: photo voice, virtual environments, etc.)
- Ways to match research questions to selection of method without a preconceived methodological preference or dominance
- Real-world and applied examples along with cases from the gerontological literature
- "How to" sections about reading output/software reports and qualitative-analysis screenshots (from ATLAS.ti) and quantitative (SPSS) output and interpretation
- Pedagogical tools in every chapter such as text boxes, case studies, definitions of key terms, discussion questions, and references for further reading on chapter topics
- Glossary of key terms, complete sample research report, and an overview of past methodological research design work in gerontology
- Companion website at www.routledge.com/cw/Weil where instructors will find PowerPoint presentations, additional discussion questions, and a sample syllabus; and students will find flashcards based on glossary terms, a downloadable copy of the sample research report in the text, and links to data sets, related websites, further reading, and select gerontological journals

This text is intended for upper-level undergraduates and masters students in aging and gerontology as well as those specializing in aging, human development, or in applied anthropology, psychology, public health, sociology, and social-work settings. Health care professionals, social workers, and care managers who work with older adults will also find this text a valuable resource.

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