

Contents

Preface	vii
1. Overview	1
General Perspectives on Measurement	2
Historical Origins of Measurement in Social Science	3
Later Developments in Measurement	5
The Role of Measurement in the Social Sciences	6
Summary and Preview	13
2. Understanding the Latent Variable	14
Constructs Versus Measures	14
Latent Variable as the Presumed Cause of Item Values	15
Path Diagrams	16
Further Elaboration of the Measurement Model	20
Parallel Tests	21
Alternative Models	24
Exercises	26
3. Reliability	27
Continuous Versus Dichotomous Items	27
Internal Consistency	27
Reliability Based on Correlations Between Scale Scores	39
Generalizability Theory	44
Summary	47
Exercises	47
4. Validity	49
Content Validity	49
Criterion-Related Validity	50
Construct Validity	53
What About Face Validity?	57
Exercises	58
5. Guidelines in Scale Development	60
Step 1: Determine Clearly What It Is You <i>Want</i> to Measure	60
Step 2: Generate an Item Pool	63
Step 3: Determine the Format for Measurement	70
Step 4: Have the Initial Item Pool Reviewed by Experts	85
Step 5: Consider Inclusion of Validation Items	87

Step 6: Administer Items to a Development Sample	88
Step 7: Evaluate the Items	90
Step 8: Optimize Scale Length	96
Exercises	100
6. Factor Analysis	102
An Overview of Factor Analysis	103
A Conceptual Description of Factor Analysis	108
Interpreting Factors	126
Principal Components Versus Common Factors	127
Confirmatory Factor Analysis	131
Using Factor Analysis in Scale Development	133
Sample Size	136
Conclusion	137
7. An Overview of Item Response Theory	138
Item Difficulty	139
Item Discrimination	142
False Positives	142
Item Characteristic Curves	144
Complexities of IRT	147
When to Use IRT	149
Conclusions	152
8. Measurement in the Broader Research Context	154
Before Scale Development	154
After Scale Administration	158
Final Thoughts	160
References	161
Index	167
About the Author	171