Instructor/TA Info

Instructor Information

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Course Information

Description

Winter 2016

TTh 9am to 10:30am

105 SWKT

IP&T 747 (Structural Equation Modeling) is an advanced statistics class focusing primarily on techniques of inferential analysis using Structural Equation Modeling with the program Mplus 7.3. We will cover: (a) confirmatory factor analysis, (b) SEM with latent variables, (c) Latent growth curve models for longitudinal data, (d) Multi-group modeling, (e) Mixture Modeling, and (f) Monte Carlo simulations in Mplus.

Required Software Mplus. This will be provided in the lab.

Required Book: Wang, J. & Wang, X. (2012) Structural equation modeling: Applications using Mplus. Wiley

To access the book free through BYU:

This link will take you to the page on the library's website. From here, you just have to click Online and then login with your BYU credentials to access the book online.

https://search.lib.byu.edu/byu/record/lee.5824379?holding=3l3o9au70a8yp2to&t_ltype=record-holding (https://search.lib.byu.edu/byu/record/lee.5824379?holding=3l3o9au70a8yp2to&t_ltype=record-holding)

Materials

No materials

Prerequisites

Multiple Regression Statistics or concurrent taking the course, Knowledge of Statistical Software such as SPSS

Learning Outcomes

Confirmatory Factor Analysis

Mastery over doing confirmatory factor analysis in a structural equation modeling context, using the computer program Mplus.

SEM with latent variables

Mastery over structural equation modeling in the presence of latent variables using the program Mplus.

Latent Growth Curve Modeling

Gain a familiarity with longitudinal data analysis in an SEM context. Using the program Mplus.

Multigroup Modeling

Gain Mastery of multigroup modeling in an SEM context. Using the program Mplus.

Mixture Modeling

Mastery over mixture modeling in an SEM context. Using the Mplus program.

Written report

Analyze a real dataset and professionally write up the results in a professional way.

Grading Scale

Grades	Percent
Α	93%
A-	90%
B+	87%
В	83%
B-	80%

C+	77%
С	73%
C-	70%
D+	67%
D	63%
D-	60%
Е	0%

Grading Policy

Because the course meets twice a week, with hands-on data analysis examples and quizzes conducted during each meeting absence from class will greatly interfere with students' ability to succeed in the class. For this reason, each student is expected to attend all classes, carefully complete all readings in advance of class, complete all assignments on time, and actively participate in class discussion.

Assignments

Assignment Descriptions

Find a dataset



Due: Tuesday, Jan 14 at 9:00 am

Locate a dataset for your own use throughout the class.

You can use these sites if you would like or bring your own data:

- <u>Distant Learning Dataset Training (DLDT) (https://nces.ed.gov/training/datauser/)</u>
- Education Data Analysis Tool (EDAT) (https://nces.ed.gov/edat/index.aspx?agrmnt=1)
- EDAT User's Guide (https://nces.ed.gov/edat/help.aspx#ContactEdatSupport)

Practice recoding data (DBL)



Due: Thursday, Jan 16 at 9:00 am

Complete the recoding assignment (assignment #1) in the DBL.

Recoding (unit 1)



Due: Tuesday, Jan 21 at 9:00 am

Use this <u>dataset (https://www.dropbox.com/s/8ccjmbjq18xgwag/RecodingQuiz.sav?dl=0)</u> (link:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/8ccjmbjq18xgwag/RecodingQuiz.sav?dl=0):

- 1. Remove any date variables.
- 2. Recode any string variables and remove the original string variable (like we did in class when we removed ID after creating IDn)
- 3. Recode any missing data as -999.
- 4. Run descriptive statistics in SPSS on all the variables in the file. Save the output file (.spv)
- 5. Save the data file as .csv.
- Create an Mplus input file reading in these variables. Include DATA, FILE, VARIABLES, MISSING, USEVARIABLES, ANALYSIS, and OUTPUT

Submit the .csv file of recoded data and the SPSS output file (.spv) of the descriptive statistics.

Accountability - Ch. 1



Due: Tuesday, Jan 21 at 9:00 am

You will be asked to indicate if you read Ch. 1 in Wang & Wang or Byrne. Dr. Larsen may want you to read both.

Accountability - Ch. 2

Jan **23**

Due: Thursday, Jan 23 at 9:00 am

On this quiz, you will indicate if you've read Ch. 2 in Wang & Wang.

SEM draw and interpret (unit 2)

Jan **23**

Due: Thursday, Jan 23 at 9:00 am

Submit a file (PowerPoint or Google Slides or something similar will probably work best) where you illustrate using appropriate shapes and arrows pointed in the correct direction(s):

- · A latent variable with 4 indicators
- · Label the factor loadings for the indicators
- · Error terms for each indicator
- Error term for the latent variable
- The latent variable regressed on one predictor (measured with no measurement error)

Accountability - Ch. 2 REVIEW

Jan 28

Due: Tuesday, Jan 28 at 9:00 am

Did you re-read Ch. 2?

CFA draw and interpret (unit 3)

Jan 28

Due: Tuesday, Jan 28 at 9:00 am

Submit a file (PowerPoint or something similar will probably work best) where you illustrate using appropriate shapes and arrows pointed in the correct direction(s) for a CFA which includes:

- · 1 latent variable with 4 continuous indicators
- · Error terms for the indicators

Write Mplus syntax that would run this imaginary model. Include DATA, NAMES ARE, USEVARIABLES ARE, MISSING, and MODEL statements. Submit both your diagram of the model and your Mplus syntax. These can be in the same file or in separate files.

CFA practice (DBL)

Jan 30

Due: Thursday, Jan 30 at 9:00 am

Assumption checking assignment

30

Due: Thursday, Jan 30 at 9:00 am

LINEM

Jan 30

Due: Thursday, Jan 30 at 9:00 am

Correctly match each aspect of LINEM.

CFA article presentation

Feb 04

Due: Tuesday, Feb 04 at 12:00 pm

Find an article that uses confirmatory factor analysis. Prepare and submit a 5-slide presentation about that article.

- 1. Look for:
 - a. Do they have sufficient data (sufficient sample size based on rules of thumb 5 people per item
 - b. LINEM FC did they address or account for them?
 - c. Type of data categorical, continuous, or censored continuous
 - d. Type of estimation used (eg., maximum likelihood (FIML) weighted least squares, Bayesian estimation)
 - e. Do they discuss how they handled missing data?
 - f. Do they have a model? Does the picture make sense?
 - g. Is the model defensible?
 - i. Did they justify the model using goodness of fit statistics? Which ones?
 - ii. Do the factor loadings make sense? (Are there "weird" factor loadings really large values as compared to others?)
 - iii. If there are multiple factors is the correlation/covariance between the factors reasonable? (no correlations are above .85 for discriminant validity, and for convergent validity your factors that are supposed to correlate do at a level of .7 or more)
 - iv. Are your factor loadings statistically significant?
 - v. Is the Rsquared (communalities) reasonable did they justify them?
 - vi. Did they use modification indices? Does it make sense that item residuals are correlated and that correlation is the reason the fit improved with application of modification indices?

- h. Do you agree with the conclusions? If not, why not? If so, why?
- i. Class will analyze information based on criteria

Accountability - Worthington and Whittaker article

Feb 13

Due: Thursday, Feb 13 at 9:00 am

Read this article: Worthington, R. L., & Whittaker, T. A. (2006). Scale development research a content analysis and recommendations for best practices. The Counseling Psychologist, 34(6), 806-838.

Goodness of Fit Cut-offs

Feb

Due: Thursday, Feb 13 at 9:00 am

Match the goodness of fit to its cut off, as well as review the LINEM assumptions.

CFA practice #2 (DBL)

Feb

Due: Thursday, Feb 13 at 9:00 am

Accountability - Worthington and Whittaker REVIEW

Feb

20 Due: Thursday, Feb 20 at 9:00 am

Review this article: Worthington, R. L., & Whittaker, T. A. (2006). Scale development research a content analysis and recommendations for best practices. The Counseling Psychologist, 34(6), 806-838.

Stupid Rules

Feb **20**

Due: Thursday, Feb 20 at 9:00 am

Identify which rules are not useful and should be avoided, as well as reviewing LINEM and cut-offs.

Factor Retention and Item Deletion

Feb 20

Due: Thursday, Feb 20 at 9:00 am

Identify rules useful for retaining factors and deleting items, as well as reviewing LINEM, goodness of fit cut-offs, and stupid rules.

Worthington and Whittaker DBL

Feb **20**

Due: Thursday, Feb 20 at 11:59 pm

EFA practice (DBL)

Feb **25**

Due: Tuesday, Feb 25 at 9:00 am

Accountability - Ch. 3 and Ch. 1 REVIEW

Feb **27**

Due: Thursday, Feb 27 at 9:00 am

SEM MIMIC basic (DBL)

03

Due: Tuesday, Mar 03 at 9:00 am

Accountability - Ch. 3 REVIEW

Mar 03

Due: Tuesday, Mar 03 at 9:00 am

Missing Data quiz

Mar 03 Due: Tuesday, Mar 03 at 11:59 pm

What is the syntax in Mplus to invoke the "missing data trick"?

What does that syntax for the "missing data trick" tell Mplus to estimate?

What needs to be true in order for the Full Information Maximum Likelihood (FIML) technique to return trustworthy results?

SEM practice indirect effects (DBL)

Mar **05**

Due: Thursday, Mar 05 at 9:00 am

Accountability - Ch. 5

Mar 10

Due: Tuesday, Mar 10 at 9:00 am

SEM interaction practice (DBL)

Mar 10

Due: Tuesday, Mar 10 at 9:00 am

Multigroup measurement invariance (DBL)

Mar **12**

Due: Thursday, Mar 12 at 9:00 am

Measurement invariance article presentation

Mar **19**

Due: Thursday, Mar 19 at 9:00 am

- Slide 1 summary slide what are the biggest things that people need to know to understand the context of your article?
- Slide 2 4 Select one set of questions to answer on each slide from the following list:
 - 1. Why did the researchers pick the grouping variable that they selected? What is their justification? Do you agree with their argument? Why or why not?
 - 2. Was there anything you would change with the way the authors formulated their model (anything that should be taken out or put in)? Why or why not?
 - 3. What are the implications for any analytical choices that you find problematic (i.e., categorical treated as continuous, use of partial invariance, not completing the full testing process through scalar invariance, missing data choices, sample size choices, etc.)?
 - 4. Where would you go from here? What are the next logical steps you would recommend to the authors?
 - 5. Do you agree with the conclusions of the authors? Why or why not?

Accountability - Ch. 5 REVIEW

Mar **19**

Due: Thursday, Mar 19 at 11:59 pm

Re-read Ch. 5 - especially p. 207 - 210 p. 222, 231, 236 - focus on meaning of syntax shown on these pages p. 288

Multiwave measurement invariance (DBL)

Mar **19**

Due: Thursday, Mar 19 at 11:59 pm

Accountability - Ch. 4

Mar **26**

Due: Thursday, Mar 26 at 9:00 am

Accountability - Ch. 4 REVIEW

Mar **31**

Due: Tuesday, Mar 31 at 9:00 am

Concentrate on the latter part of the chapter this time.

LGM linear practice (DBL)

Mar **31**

Due: Tuesday, Mar 31 at 9:00 am

LGM Part 2

LGM practice covariates (DBL)

Apr **02**

Due: Thursday, Apr 02 at 9:00 am

Final Presentation



Due: Thursday, Apr 09 at 9:00 am

Please submit to learning suite.

Students will prepare a short Powerpoint presentation which they share on the last day of class.

Final Project



Due: Wednesday, Apr 22 at 11:59 pm

The individual project will consist of a write-up of a hypothesis the student has come up with and data analysis of a secondary dataset to confirm or deny that hypothesis. The project will consists of a paper (15-20 pages) double-spaced, APA style where:

- (a) student will state hypothesis,
- (b) check assumptions for SEM,
- (e) run SEM, and
- (f) write a short conclusion.

University Policies

Honor Code

In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact be your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university. Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and working environment. It is the university's expectation, and every instructor's expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

Sexual Misconduct

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Brigham Young University prohibits unlawful sex discrimination against any participant in its education programs or activities. The university also prohibits sexual harassment-including sexual violence-committed by or against students, university employees, and visitors to campus. As outlined in university policy, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are considered forms of "Sexual Misconduct" prohibited by the university.

University policy requires all university employees in a teaching, managerial, or supervisory role to report all incidents of Sexual Misconduct that come to their attention in any way, including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Incidents of Sexual Misconduct should be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at <u>t9coordinator@byu.edu</u> or (801) 422-8692. Reports may also be submitted through EthicsPoint at https://titleix.byu.edu/report) or 1-888-238-1062 (24-hours a day).

BYU offers confidential resources for those affected by Sexual Misconduct, including the university's Victim Advocate, as well as a number of non-confidential resources and services that may be helpful. Additional information about Title IX, the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy, reporting requirements, and resources can be found at http://titleix.byu.edu (http://titleix.byu.edu) or by contacting the university's Title IX Coordinator.

Student Disability

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. A disability is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Whether an impairment is substantially limiting depends on its nature and severity, its duration or expected duration, and its permanent or expected permanent or long-term impact. Examples include vision or hearing impairments, physical disabilities, chronic illnesses, emotional disorders (e.g., depression, anxiety), learning disorders, and attention disorders (e.g., ADHD). If you have a disability which impairs your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the University Accessibility Center (UAC), 2170 WSC or 801-422-2767 to request a reasonable accommodation. The UAC can also assess students for learning, attention, and emotional concerns. If you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, please contact the Equal Employment Office at 801-422-5895, D-285 ASB for help.

Academic Honesty

The first injunction of the Honor Code is the call to "be honest." Students come to the university not only to improve their minds, gain knowledge, and develop skills that will assist them in their life's work, but also to build character. "President David O. McKay taught that character is the highest aim of education" (The Aims of a BYU Education, p.6). It is the purpose of the BYU Academic Honesty Policy to assist in fulfilling that aim. BYU

students should seek to be totally honest in their dealings with others. They should complete their own work and be evaluated based upon that work. They should avoid academic dishonesty and misconduct in all its forms, including but not limited to plagiarism, fabrication or falsification, cheating, and other academic misconduct.

Schedule

Date	Complete before class	Learning Objectives	In class activities
Week 1			
T Jan 07 Tuesday	LINEM Opens Start looking for a dataset. These sites may help: Distant Learning Dataset Training (DLDT). Education Data Analysis Tool (EDAT) EDAT User's Guide https://www.data.gov/ Buy or access the textbook (Wang & Wang Structural Equation Modeling: Applications using Mplus) Access this book through the HBLL and read Ch. 1 (Byrne) Assumption checking assignment Opens Factor Retention and Item Deletion Opens Goodness of Fit Cut-offs Opens Stupid Rules Opens	Learning plan for Jan. 7	Accessing Citrix and using Kumo 1. Accessing Citrix to use SPSS and Mplus (Note: There are two methods - web browser of desktop) 2. Connect cloud storage (Google Drive, Box, Dropbox, etc.) to Citrix via Kumo
Th Jan 09 Thursday	Accountability - Ch. 1 Opens Accountability - Ch. 2 Opens Accountability - Ch. 2 REVIEW Opens Accountability - Worthington and Whittaker REVIEW Opens Accountability - Worthington and Whittaker article Opens Accountability - Ch. 3 and Ch. 1 REVIEW Opens Accountability - Ch. 4 Opens Accountability - Ch. 4 REVIEW Opens Accountability - Ch. 5 Opens Accountability - Ch. 3 REVIEW Opens Accountability - Ch. 5 REVIEW Opens Accountability - Ch. 5 REVIEW Opens	Learning Plan for Jan. 9 Datasets for in class practice: Dataset 1 ECI17mis.sav Fill-in-the-blank Mplus input file	Devotional Celina (Come follow me)
Week 2			
T Jan 14 Tuesday	Find a dataset	Learning plan for Jan. 14 Datasets for in class practice: Dataset 1 ECI17mis.sav Fill-in-the-blank Mplus input file for descriptive statistics	Devotional Heidi (Come follow me)
Th Jan 16 Thursday Week 3	Practice recoding data (DBL)	Learning plan for Jan. 16 Dataset for in class practice (JO2015msgu.sav) Descriptive and Mplus export for ECI17mis.sps Download	Devotional Jonathon (Come follow me)

	Martin Luther King Jr Day		
T Jan 21 Tuesday	Accountability - Ch. 1 Closes Recoding (unit 1)	Learning plan for Jan. 21	Devotional Susanna (Come follow me)
Th Jan 23 Thursday	Accountability - Ch. 2 Closes SEM draw and interpret (unit 2)	Learning plan for Jan. 23 Dataset from book:	Devotional Rebecca (Come follow me)
		BSI dataset (Chapter 2)MPLUS EXPORT.sav <u>Download</u>	
		CFAwalkthrough input file in Mplus.inp <u>Download</u>	
		cfa of bsi somatization.txt Download	
Week 4			
T Jan 28 Tuesday	CFA draw and interpret (unit 3) Accountability - Ch. 2 REVIEW Closes	Learning plan for Jan. 28	Devotional Danny (Come follow me)
Th Jan 30 Thursday	CFA practice (DBL) LINEM Closes Assumption checking assignment Closes	<u>Learning plan for Jan. 30</u> <u>Dataset 2</u> for CFA practice (EC15f1ct)	Devotional Shiloh (Come follow me)
Week 5			
T Feb 04 Tuesday		Learning plan for Feb. 4	Devotional Alicia (Come follow me) CFA article presentation
Th Feb 06 Thursday		<u>Learning plan for Feb. 6</u>	Devotional Cecil (Come follow me)
Week 6			
T Feb 11 Tuesday	Last two CFA articles. CFA pratice #2	Learning plan for Feb. 11	Devotional Rebecca (Come follow me)
Th Feb 13 Thursday	Goodness of Fit Cut-offs Closes Accountability - Worthington and	Learning plan for Feb. 13	Devotional Ester (Come follow
	Whittaker article Closes	<u>Dataset A</u> for EFA practice	me)
	CFA practice #2 (DBL)	<u>Dataset B</u> for EFA practice	
		EFA fill-in-the-blank .inp file	
Week 7			
T Feb 18 Tuesday	Monday Instruction		
Th Feb 20 Thursday	Accountability - Worthington and Whittaker REVIEW Closes Worthington and Whittaker DBL Stupid Rules Closes Factor Retention and Item Deletion Closes	<u>Learning plan for Feb. 20</u>	Devotional Ross (Covenant Belonging)
Week 8			
T Feb 25 Tuesday	EFA practice (DBL)	<u>Learning plan for Feb. 25</u>	Devotional Heidi (Covenant Belonging)

Th Feb 27 Thursday	Accountability - Ch. 3 and Ch. 1 REVIEW Closes	Learning plan for March 3 Learning plan for Feb. 27 oc_allcountries_allrounds-no dates or string, missing -9999 merged composites.sav Download oc_allcountries_allrounds-no dates or string, missing -9999 merged composites.csv Download Young lives skeleton.inp Download Boss assignment	Devotional Celina (Covenant Belonging)
Week 9			
T Mar 03 Tuesday	SEM MIMIC basic (DBL) Accountability - Ch. 3 REVIEW Closes Missing Data quiz	Dataset 1 for SEM practice (JS2015g) Dataset 2 for SEM practice (JB2019gr)	Devotional Jonathan (Covenant Belonging)
Th Mar 05 Thursday	SEM practice indirect effects (DBL)	Learning plan for March 5	Devotional Alicia (Covenant Belonging)
Week 10			
T Mar 10 Tuesday	Accountability - Ch. 5 Closes SEM interaction practice (DBL) Read Chapter 5 before class today. Justice for self input: Justice for self CFA.inp Download CSV file: justiceBeliefsIND (1) Mplus export.csv Download JusticeBeliefsIND (1) Mplus export.sav Download	Learning plan for March 10 <u>Dataset</u> for multigroup invariance (male and religious, JB2019gr)	Devotional Cecil (Covenant Belonging)
Th Mar 12 Thursday	Multigroup measurement invariance (DBL) Basic CFA <u>.inp file</u> for DBL problem #1	<u>Learning plan for March 12</u> <u>Dataset</u> for multiwave (2 timepoints, 1 factor, 4 indicators) invariance	Devotional Elisse (Covenant Belonging)
Week 11			
T Mar 17 Tuesday			Devotional Jesse (Covenant Belonging)
Th Mar 19 Thursday	Accountability - Ch. 5 REVIEW Closes Multiwave measurement invariance (DBL)		Devotional Susanna (Covenant Belonging) Measurement invariance article presentation
Week 12			
T Mar 24 Tuesday			Devotional Danny (Covenant Belonging)

Th Mar 26 Thursday	Instructor Ratings Open Accountability - Ch. 4 Closes		Devotional Rebecca (Covenant Belonging)
	Sign up sheet for student consulting		Bolonging)
	Data and Mplus skeleton for today:		
	oc_allcountries_allrounds-no dates or string, missing -9999.sav <u>Download</u> oc_allcountries_allrounds-no dates or string, missing -9999.csv <u>Download</u> Young lives LGM skeletion.inp <u>Download</u> Google sheet of answers		
	Shiloh <u>video</u> of DBL assignment (14 minutes)		
Week 13			
T Mar 31 Tuesday	LGM linear practice (DBL) Accountability - Ch. 4 REVIEW Closes		Devotional Ester (Covenant Belonging)
	LGM part 2		
	Recorded lecture		
Th Apr 02 Thursday	LGM practice covariates (DBL) Consulting		Devotional
Week 14			
T Apr 07 Tuesday	Consulting		Devotional
Th Apr 09 Thursday	Final Project student presentations	Final Presentation	Devotional
Week 15			
T Apr 14 Tuesday	Final student presentations		Devotional Celina
Th Apr 16 Thursday	Winter Exam Preparation (04/16/2020 - 04/16/2020)		
Week 16			
W Apr 22 Wednesday	9-10:50 am Final Student presentations	Final Project	Devotional Alicia