
SCOPE OF CONSULTATION & SERVICES

Grant writing support

- Provide initial consultation with faculty and staff on prospective research projects
- Review, assist in developing study design
- Conduct power analysis
- Describe statistical models and associated tests

Research planning and study design

- Consultation in early stages of research project to maximize efficiency and effectiveness
- Reviewing and developing efficient experimental designs
- Supporting the design of data collection instruments and conducting pilot tests
- Consulting on sampling methods

Data Management

- Design of data entry systems
- Coding and transforming variables
- Operating database management systems to clean, store, and archive data

Statistical Analysis

- General linear model (ANOVA, Regression)
- Multilevel modeling (HLM)
- Structural equation modeling
- Psychometrics (item analysis, reliability analysis, Rasch scaling)
- Longitudinal analysis (growth modeling)
- Effect size estimation

Reporting

- Review of interpretations
- Development of appropriate graphical displays
- Manuscript review, meeting reviewer requests

***meeting a need with
in-college expertise***

MAKING ORCS POSSIBLE

The ORCS is supported through the ICR funds generated in the CEHD through sponsored projects throughout the College. The Office of Research and Policy, through Associate Dean David R. Johnson, has supported the redesign and expansion of the ORCS in its current form.

The Department of Educational Psychology, through the leadership and support of Chair Susan Hupp has also provided the organizational management, financial staff support, and space in the Education Sciences Building.

As sponsored projects support the ORCS through ISO agreements, and the ORCS becomes engaged in supporting research activities throughout the college, these funds will be transferred back to the Office of Research and Policy for further College-wide enhancements of research infrastructure, support, and development. Together, we all play a role in enhancing the research capacity and productivity of the college, making it a national leader in the generation of knowledge and practice in all areas of Education and Human Development.

Published by Department of Educational Psychology

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This publication is available online at <http://www.tc.umn.edu/~orc>

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Office of Research Consultation & Services

CEHD | College of Education + Human Development



QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

ORCS MISSION

The Office of Research Consultation and Services (ORCS) is committed to enhance the research, teaching, and service goals of the College of Education and Human Development through a three part mission, by providing professional research consultation and services to:

1. Build the research capacity of the college by providing support to researchers to enhance their productivity and research quality;
2. Provide critical opportunities for professional development in all areas of research from study conceptualization to reporting; and
3. Promote collaborations among researchers in the college by bridging the work of substantive researchers and methodologists.

Through these goals, the ORCS strives to maximize the potential contributions of College researchers to their fields and to the community.

INCLUDING ORCS IN YOUR RESEARCH BUDGET

The ORCS operates as an Internal Service Organization (ISO), providing a budgetary mechanism for faculty and grant-funded project staff to seek the services of ORCS. When requests that are grant-supported come through the ORCS, grants will be charged to cover the costs of consultants and services. ORCS encourages investigators to include a budget item for consultation services when grants are written. The college grant-support staff can help with this process.



SUPPORTING CEHD FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

University Students who are looking for assistance with their own research will not be charged consultation fees. The availability of ORCS is not intended to replace the faculty advising role in the planning of student research. The ORCS will not conduct statistical analysis for Masters or PhD theses, but will support analysis and interpretation. The ORCS will not provide consultation on course-related projects; we refer students to their instructors and faculty advisors.

University Faculty and Staff will be provided one hour of free consultation. For ongoing support, and particularly all database work and statistical analyses, the ORCS will charge an hourly rate through the ISO structure. Fees will be paid directly from department/center budgets or from grants and contracts.

External clients unaffiliated with the University can access support from the ISO through an external sales agreement. This will be required prior to providing consultation or services, including negotiation of time required and cost.

ORCS Staff:

The ORCS is staffed with a full time Coordinator and four GRAs, providing expertise in research design, measurement, data analysis, and database development and management. The faculty director is Michael C. Rodriguez, Associate Professor of Quantitative Methods in Education. Current staff contact information is available online.



Office of Research Consultation & Services
198 Education Sciences Building
56 East River Road
Minneapolis, MN 55455

612-624-4045

orc@umn.edu
www.tc.umn.edu/~orc