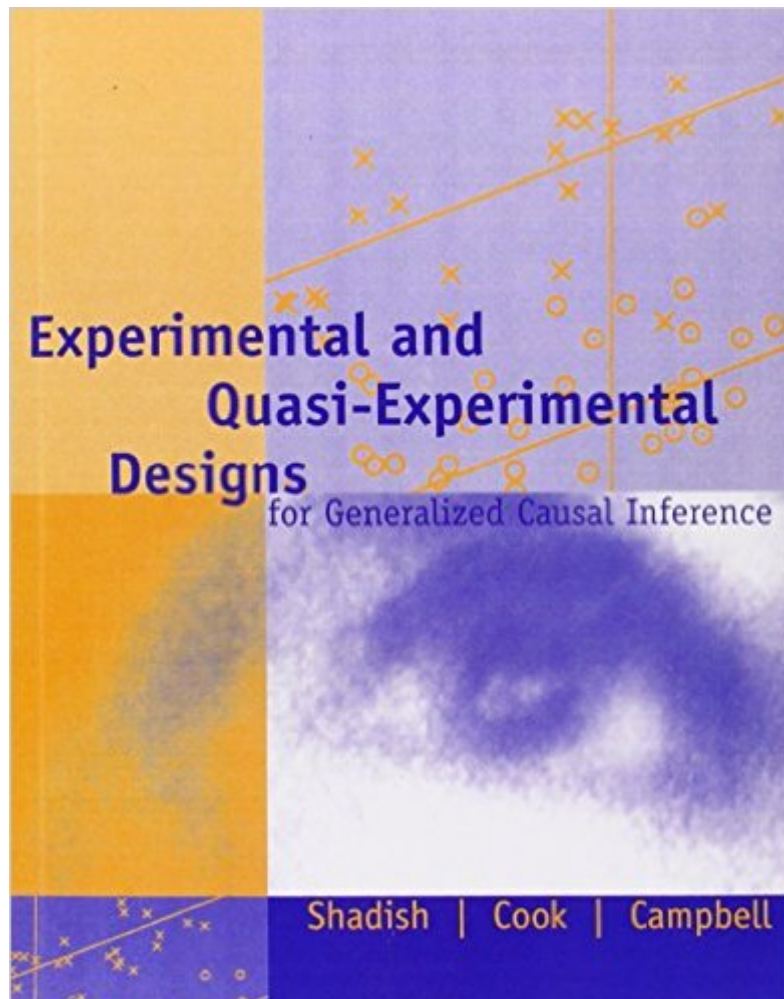


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# Experimental And Quasi-Experimental Designs For Generalized Causal Inference



## Synopsis

This long awaited successor of the original Cook/Campbell Quasi-Experimentation: Design and Analysis Issues for Field Settings represents updates in the field over the last two decades. The book covers four major topics in field experimentation:

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (47 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I want to emphasize something that I think explains the very mixed reviews of this book--that it's NOT an introduction to experimental research. This book is the successor to Campbell and Stanley's Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs for Research and Cook and Campbell's Quasi-Experimentation, both pathbreaking works in this field. It is by far the most sophisticated and thoughtful analysis of the experimental approach to social research, and explores in depth some issues (such as causation) that other books only touch on. Donald Campbell was the major figure in the development of this approach, and this book continues the tradition he began, significantly expanding and revising his arguments. I can understand the frustration of students who are assigned this book in an introductory course, but every researcher who plans on actually doing experimental research in the social sciences (not psychology) needs this book--particularly the last chapter, "A Critical Assessment of Our Assumptions."

I am a doctoral student in public health and recommend this book to my fellow doctoral students out there. It is a thorough and comprehensive text on research methods. I have gone through quite a few texts with similar titles and this stands out as the best.

This is definitely a polarizing methodology textbook. Students who prefer a more straightforward approach will probably do better with Gall, Gall and Borg. However, if you want/need sophisticated content on the philosophical underpinnings of research designs rather than just a cookbook for your dissertation, this is a far better resource.

This book is THE resource for those who are serious about research design. As another reviewer said, it is NOT an introductory textbook on research. This book requires mature, graduate-level thinking and comprehension. Those who give it low ratings appear to be people who do not want to do research as a career, do not take research seriously, or simply want an easy, watered-down resource for whatever reason. Cook, Campbell (and now Shadish) are revolutionaries of social science research design. There is no better, or more comprehensive, textbook available for serious grad students and future applied researchers.

Well written. Provides a good understanding of Quasi-experimental designs. The only draw back is the examples are hard to apply to complex research designs such. The authors use examples that have 100 or less data points. However provides the reader with a strong understanding of the design.

I appreciate this is a formative text. My instructor held it almost biblical in nature. I do wish, however, it was more approachable in it's language. At 600 something pages, it amazes me that textbook authors would rather exercise their mastery of language and slow reading explanations (which leave many students exchanging time for skimmed chapters) than make their work approachable. Make the language plainer. Make the book more scannable. Call out examples. Call out explanations or re-explanations of ideas. Make this 600 pager read like a 400 pager and get alot more students into the knowledge they need!

This book was recommended to me by a friend who is more familiar with these experimental methods than I am. I have not been disappointed- Shadish explains the techniques in an easy-to-understand manner, with enough details to develop ideas into research questions. Unless you're a methodologist, you'll still need help carrying out studies using these methods, but the knowledge contained in this book goes a long way toward getting the process started. Highly recommended.

This book is comprehensive and incredibly useful. Anyone who is interested in designing or interpreting an experiment or a quasi-experiment in the social and behavioral sciences would benefit greatly by reading it.

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