Mastering Research Methods

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Understanding the topics covered in the chapter provided at the end of each chapter to help readers reinforce their learning. Concepts are explained in detail with examples to enhance readers' understanding. Each chapter introduces a method to help readers at all levels better understand the research process. Formal and informal research design, measurement, and sampling procedures are covered, and readers can gain insight into the practice of research. The book is a practical guide for those who are deeply involved in research.

CHUA YAN PIAW

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Mastering

RESEARCH METHODS
To

Bok Kai Wa
Yee Pei, Wan Xin and Jing Xin

who are the main sources of my happiness

and

to the memory of my parents
Preface

The desire to write a research book arose when I was working as a facilitator for a 12-week research course for lecturers. For two years, off-duty hours and what were supposed to be family times were spent planning and writing this book.

During the writing process, I was both the author and reader. As the author, I tried to write the book professionally, to provide valid, reliable, up-to-date, useful and practical information to the readers. Then I read my own writing in the way would somebody with little knowledge of research. After playing the roles of author and reader and rewriting and rereading the manuscript, the book was finally completed.

Those who are directly involved in the field of research will find this book useful. It is appropriate to be used as the teaching and learning material for courses which are related to research methodology at all undergraduate and post-graduate levels. This book can also be used as a reference by researchers when they are conducting and reporting their research.

In addition, explanations about the concept of research, especially the design, measurement and sampling procedures, and format of research reports are simplified to help readers of all levels better understand what they are reading. Concepts are explained in detail with examples and text-related illustrations to enable readers to carry out confidently each stage of the research process. Exercises are provided at the end of each chapter to help readers reinforce their understanding of the topics covered in the chapter.

I hope readers at every reading level will be able to benefit fully from this book in their efforts to realise their aims and hopes through research activities and self-development in this era of globalisation and life-long learning.

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Finally, I would like to thank the individuals who have contributed directly and indirectly to the production of this book. Thank you very much.

Chua Yan Piaw

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES
The author welcomes comments and responses from readers. Please send them to this e-mail address: yanpiaw@gmail.com. Thank you.
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Mastering Research Methods is a practical guide that covers all aspects of research methodology. It is a useful teaching and learning tool for courses related to research at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. This book can also be used as a reference for researchers when they are conducting and reporting their research. Concepts are explained in detail with examples to enable readers to carry out confidently each stage of the research process. Exercises are provided at the end of each chapter to help readers reinforce their understanding of the topics covered in the chapter.