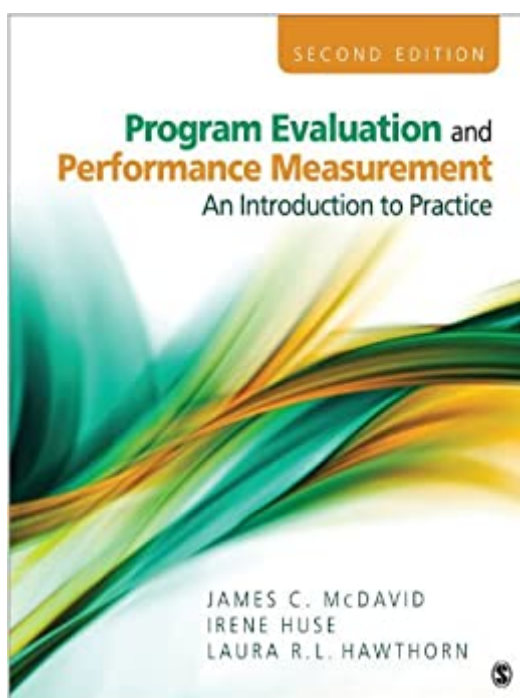


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Program Evaluation And Performance Measurement: An Introduction To Practice: Volume 2



Synopsis

Program Evaluation and Performance Measurement: An Introduction to Practice, Second Edition offers an accessible, practical introduction to program evaluation and performance measurement for public and non-profit organizations, and has been extensively updated since the first edition. Using examples, it covers topics in a detailed fashion, making it a useful guide for students as well as practitioners who are participating in program evaluations or constructing and implementing performance measurement systems. Authors James C. McDavid, Irene Huse, and Laura R. L. Hawthorn guide readers through conducting quantitative and qualitative program evaluations, needs assessments, cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analyses, as well as constructing, implementing and using performance measurement systems. The importance of professional judgment is highlighted throughout the book as an intrinsic feature of evaluation practice.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Perhaps this book is the toughest slog of any read so far in my grad classes. The authors managed to make even the simplest of ideas challenging to envision in practice. Try this: "Although strategic planning is widely accepted as sound management practice for the achievement of objectives,

organization theorists have observed that organizations appear, as well, to pursue behavioral goals, which may or may not coincide with statements enshrining the rational purposes of the organization."Why not simplify as:Sound management uses strategic planning to achieve objectives. But, in some organizations, stated behavioral goals may not align with the expressed purposes for the organization's existence.I suspect the authors' confusing writing style creates the need for endless repetition. They need to say nearly everything 3 different ways for the reader to understand.I feel fortunate that additional class resources and online resources are much easier to comprehend. The topics of project evaluation and performance are not difficult to understand.

This text book is one of the worst I have read in my eight years of undergrad and graduate study. With few exceptions the material is presented in a tangential, rambling and circumstantial manner. I found myself frequently referring to other academic sources in order to decipher the subject material that McDavid awkwardly attempts to convey. I was initially hoping that the negative reviews of the text were hyperbole, but I have discovered they were accurate. If a professor assigns this text, my advice is to skip the class and wait until a better one is assigned.

This is without a doubt one of the most poorly written textbooks I've come across in my life. What is supposed to be an introduction to program evaluation is instead a blob of information thrown together, poorly formatted, and nearly impossible to comprehend for someone that's just beginning to learn about these concepts. Definitions of key concepts are basically missing unless you look at the glossary, examples of key concepts are nonexistent and everything just comes across as mambo jumbo. Truly a terrible excuse for a university used textbook.

First of all, this was a scanned e-book without any links. Possibly the limitations of the Kindle file format where it's not like PDF files with bright color, links, and text flow.Second, the material was pointless, overblown, and unnecessary. Would not recommend the book at all.

This book is an extremely long read and I found it not very useful at all. I needed it for class, but it is uninteresting and very boring. It takes awhile just to read one chapter.

Very boring and long book, and it rambles a lot. However if this is your area of expertise it has good info, good diagrams, and a great index, and definitions in the back.

The book within two days in perfect condition. I don't like the content much, but the product was perfect.

Very pedantic presentation with lots of dodges and hedges. Claims to improve institutional accountability but ironically doesn't take its own advice.

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