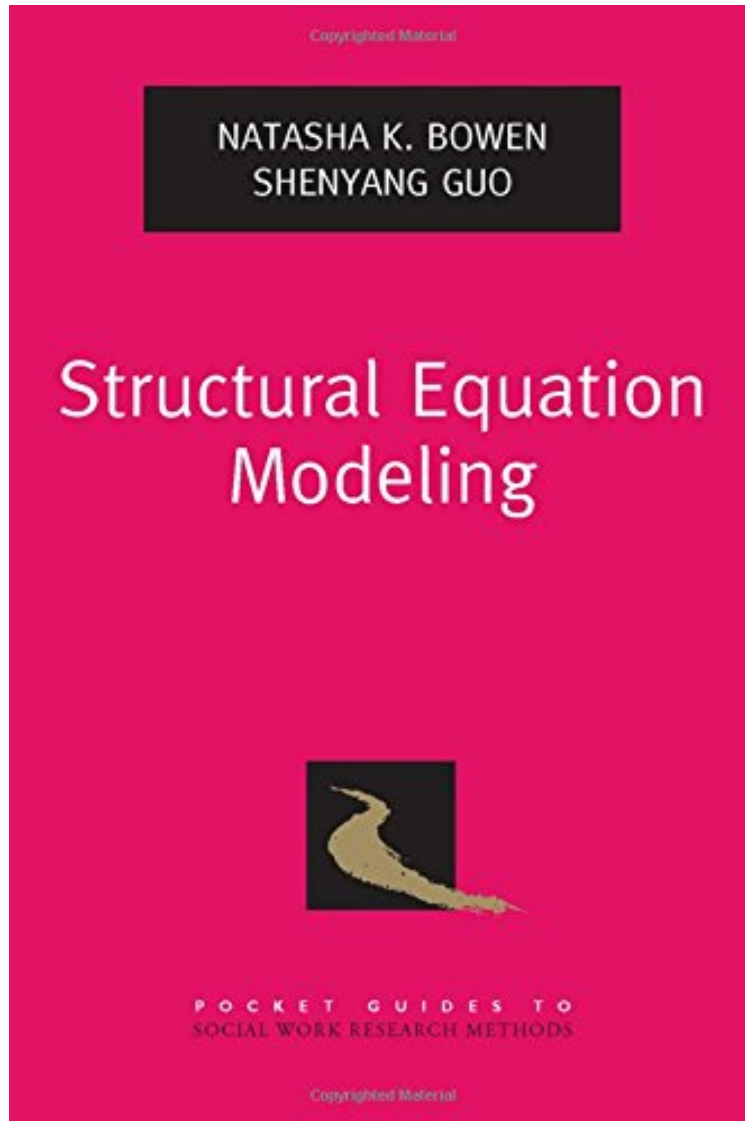


# Structural Equation Modeling (Pocket Guide to Social Work Research Methods)

*Natasha K. Bowen, Shenyang Guo*

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**Natasha K. Bowen, Shenyang Guo : Structural Equation Modeling (Pocket Guide to Social Work Research Methods)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Structural Equation Modeling (Pocket Guide to Social Work Research Methods):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awesome and helpful resource By Belle0477 This book walks you through each step of the process of using SEM. It is so well written that it is clear and easy to follow. I wish I would

have had access to this resource sooner!0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. nice bookBy Asawineethis book is very nice. It clearly explain about Structural equation modeling. I like it because it help me understand and easy for applying with my project0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Basic Introduction to SEMBy atavismI am not in the social work field, but someone recommended this book to me as a quick refresher of structural equation modeling. If you don't mind that most of the examples come from social work, I think this could be a useful resource to anyone interested in learning SEM basics.I found the figures particularly helpful, but I sometimes got frustrated with the way things were ordered in the text. An equation would be presented, but the variables would not be explained until several paragraphs further down. I prefer an immediate definition of any new variables whenever an equation is given.If you plan to use this book, make sure you put a bookmark in on page 202, which is where Appendix 1 starts. This was probably the most used part of the book for me. It names and briefly defines every symbol and variable used in the book. Since they aren't always defined immediately in the text (or sometimes at all), I ended up flipping to this appendix while reading about every other page in the book.

Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) has long been used in social work research, but the writing on the topic is typically fragmented and highly technical. This pocket guide fills a major gap in the literature by providing social work researchers and doctoral students with an accessible synthesis. The authors demonstrate two SEM programs with distinct user interfaces and capabilities (Amos and Mplus) with enough specificity that readers can conduct their own analyses without consulting additional resources. Examples from social work literature highlight best practices for the specification, estimation, interpretation, and modification of structural equation models. Unlike most sources on SEM, this book provides clear guidelines on how to evaluate SEM output and how to proceed when model fit is not acceptable.Oftentimes, confirmatory factor analysis and general structure modeling are the most flexible, powerful, and appropriate choices for social work data. Richly illustrated with figures, equations, matrices, and tables, this pocket guide empowers social workers with a set of defensible analysis strategies that allows for competent, confident use of SEM.

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