AN SPSS COMPANION FOR THE FUNDAMENTALS
OF SOCIAL RESEARCH

An SPSS Companion for The Fundamentals of Social Research offers students the opportunity to delve into the world of SPSS using real data sets and statistical analysis techniques directly from Paul M. Kellstedt, Guy D. Whitten, and Steven A. Tuch’s new textbook. Workbook sections parallel chapters in the main text, giving students a chance to apply the lessons and techniques learned in each chapter in a statistical software setting. Detailed chapters teach students to reproduce results presented in the textbook, allowing them to become comfortable performing statistical analyses for evaluating causal claims through repeated practice. Step-by-step instructions for using SPSS are provided, along with command lines and screenshots to demonstrate proper use of the software. Instructions for producing the figures and tables in the main text are integrated throughout the workbook. End-of-chapter exercises encourage students to formulate and evaluate their own hypotheses.

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AN SPSS COMPANION FOR

The Fundamentals of Social Research

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Preface

This software companion book represents an effort to provide both extra exercises, as well as hands-on material for how to put the techniques that we discuss in The Fundamentals of Social Research into action. It is one of three workbooks, each written to help students to work with the materials covered in The Fundamentals of Social Research using a particular piece of statistical software.

This workbook focuses on using the program SPSS. (The other companion books are designed to work with Stata and R.) Our expectation is that the typical user of this book will be using a relatively recent version of SPSS on a computer that is running some version of the Windows operating system. We also have made an effort to accommodate users who are using some version of macOS or OS X. An online appendix available at www.cambridge.org/fsr will help Mac users with any difficulties.

The chapter structure of this workbook mirrors the chapter structure of The Fundamentals of Social Research. We have written with the expectation that students will read the chapters of this companion after they have read the chapters of the book.

We continue to update both the general and instructor-only sections of the webpage for our book (www.cambridge.org/fsr). As before, the general section contains data sets available in formats compatible with SPSS, Stata, and R. The instructor-only section contains several additional resources, including PowerPoint and TeX/Beamer slides for each chapter, a test-bank, and answer keys for the exercises.