**CLDP 948 / EPSY 906 HW1: Background Check for your Instrument  
7 points; due Friday 9/7/2018 by 11:59 PM via Blackboard**

The goal of HW1 is for you to learn about the previous psychometric evaluation of an existing instrument that you either routinely use in your research or plan to use in upcoming research. Ideally you will have access to data using the instrument that you will then analyze for the other own-data homework assignments, so please choose an instrument with this goal in mind.

When selecting data to analyze for this class, ideally you should have six or more items measuring a single dimension. If you have fewer than six items measuring a single dimension, please use enough items for two dimensions so that your model will eventually be testable. There are no requirements for respondent sample size—use whatever data you have ready access to.

Find the original article or source for that describes that instrument’s development and psychometric properties. Note that this may include more than one source (e.g., a long form and a short form that were developed separately). Please read the source(s) carefully and answer the following questions about the work. Note that the source(s) may use models that you aren’t familiar with yet. If so, just answer the questions using the information provided as best you can. If information requested below is omitted, please report that, too. **Please attach a copy of the source(s) you are referencing to the assignment, as well as the actual items if possible.**

1. For what population is this instrument intended? What kind of sample was collected to examine the properties of this instrument, and how well does it correspond to the intended population? If not, was a reason given for the discrepancy?  
     
   Answer:
2. What is the latent trait (e.g., construct, ability, or attitude) that is being measured by this instrument? Briefly, why was it developed (i.e., how does it differ from previous related instruments, or is this an entirely new construct that was not yet measurable)?  
     
   Answer:
3. What is the format of the items (i.e., is there a common stem, self-report or other report)? What are the specific response options, and are they the same for all items?  
     
   Answer:
4. How many dimensions of the trait is this instrument measuring and what are they?   
     
   Answer:
5. What evidence was provided to support this assertion of dimensionality? Specifically:
   1. Was PCA or EFA used? What kind of extraction and rotation if so?  
        
      Answer:
   2. Was a latent trait measurement model used (e.g., CFA, IFA, IRT)?   
      What method of estimation was used? How was model fit assessment conducted?   
        
      Answer:
   3. If EFA or CFA was used, does it seem likely or reasonable that the item responses would be continuously and normally distributed?  
        
      Answer:
6. Was evidence given for reliability? What kind(s)? What were the reliability coefficients reported (type and numeric estimate of reliability)?  
     
   Answer:
7. Was evidence given for validity? What kind?  
     
   Answer:
8. After answering these questions, do you see any potential problems with the reported psychometric evaluation of this instrument or the content/format of the instrument?  
     
   Answer: