



By Dr. Telly Kamelia

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The clean reading here is that short-term access wins on raw cost, but ownership still has a credible case. The current Merybook print copy is only modestly above the sampled 180-day digital option while being dramatically below the rest of the print market. That makes this less of a bargain-hunting question and more of a study-horizon question.

What this book actually teaches

Research Methods for Criminal Justice and Criminology matters because it teaches students how claims about crime, justice systems, and policy are actually built. The book is most valuable when it helps readers understand research design, measurement, sampling, ethics, data interpretation, and the difference between persuasive language and evidence-based reasoning.

That is why this kind of text often becomes more useful later, not less. Students return

to research methods when they write capstones, critique articles, interpret statistics, or think seriously about graduate study. A methods book is rarely exciting in the moment, but it becomes important wherever the student has to ask whether a finding is trustworthy and what the design really allows us to conclude.

Who should buy print and who should not

Buy print if you expect to revisit research design, ethics, and data interpretation later in your degree. The current print listing is much stronger than the rest of the ownership market and reasonable for that longer horizon.

Use rental or MindTap only if your goal is simply to finish one course at the lowest immediate cost, especially if MindTap is required for graded work anyway.

Sources checked

- Merybook product listing for ISBN 9780357763735
- eCampus pricing snapshots for new print, used print, rental, and marketplace offers
- MindTap / eText pricing snapshot
- Pricing reviewed on April 19, 2026