POLS-624
Scope and Methods of Political Science

Fall 2022

Instructor:	Daniel Weitzel	**Time:**	Th 2PM–5PM
Email:	daniel.weitzel@colostate.edu	**Place:**	Clark C347

Objectives:

Graduate Scope and Methods is a course intended to socialize and professionalize graduate students to be conversant with, and productive in, the discipline of political science; following this course, students should be able to understand, explain, and build upon the ideas offered in primary scientific literature of their field. This includes understanding:

1. the myriad complexities of conducting research in political science,

2. the role of causality and logic in conducting research in political science,

3. the difficulties of measurement of concepts in political science research, and

4. the choices and tradeoffs of the many types of available data and research designs available to the political scientist.

The goal of the course is to provide students with the insight of research methods and the necessary tools to begin conducting original, empirical research of their own in the discipline of political science, with the understanding that empirical political science is an extremely diverse field with a wide range of approaches to conducting valid empirical research.

Office Hours:

Tue 13:00-16:00 in Clark B 348. I am also available after class, or by appointment. During office hours I am available for any and all questions students might have. Please make use of this opportunity. We can discuss your questions about the course material, the class, or your progress so far. Since I am new in town: I'm also happy to hear about your favorite things to do in Fort Collins and Colorado.

Main References:

There is no required textbook to purchase for this course. All readings in this class will made avaiable on Canvas. We will read research published in academic journals and books. The articles are selected based on their topic, impact, accessibility, and relevance to the class. We will usually read and discuss two/three academic articles or book chapters per class session. Additional readings are listed in the syllabus. You can read those if you want to learn more about a specific topic. In case you are looking for introductory text books that help you understand the material, I can recommend the following books. Purchasing or reading these books is not necessary for this class.

- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 2021. *Designing social inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research.* Princeton University Press.
- Brady, H.E. and Collier, D. eds., 2010. *Rethinking social inquiry: Diverse tools, shared standards.* Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
- Little, D., 1991. *Varieties of social explanation: An introduction to the philosophy of social science.*
- Gerring, J., 2001. *Social science methodology: A criterial framework.* Cambridge University Press.
- Clarke, K.A. and Primo, D.M., 2012. *A model discipline: Political science and the logic of representations.* Oxford University Press.
- Geddes, B., 2003. *Paradigms and sand castles: Theory building and research design in comparative politics.* University of Michigan Press.
- Morgan, S.L. and Winship, C., 2015. *Counterfactuals and causal inference.* Cambridge University Press.
- Additional chapters and articles listed in the tentative course schedule will be made available in Canvas.

Professionalization Seminar:

The objective of this seminar within the course is to introduce you to some of the important aspects of the political science profession. While your graduate seminars will equip you with the necessary scholarly knowledge to pass your comprehensive exams, write your dissertation, find a job, and pursue a successful academic/non-academic career, the goal of this course is to prepare you for the less commonly discussed aspects of the graduate school and life beyond it, such as how to prepare an effective presentation, how to study for the comprehensive exams, how to approach to your dissertation topic, etc. We will have a guest speaker for each session to provide you with different points of view. You must submit a question for each professionalization session via email (see Class participation in Assignments).

Assignments:

Class participation 20%

Active class participation (10%) is an essential part of this seminar. The course will require a substantial amount of reading, which must be completed prior to the class period so that you participate actively. As part of your participation grade, you are also required to submit one question for each professionalization series (10%). You should submit the question via email (`daniel.weitzel@colostate.edu`) by *Tuesday 5pm* before the upcoming class. I will share these questions anonymously with our guest speakers, who will prepare their answers for as many questions as they like, before the session on Thursday. If we do not have a guest speaker, I will try to answer the questions in the session.

Assignments 20%

There will be eight short assignments over the course of the semester. Each assignment is worth 2.5% of your final grade. If written assignments have to be submitted you must email a PDF. Tentative due dates are listed below. The details of each assignment will be distributed early in the semester. You must complete all assignments. The specific content of each assignment is listed further down in the syllabus.

Aug 26: Research interests

Sep 1: Five research questions

Sep 15: Complete Human Subjects training

Sep 22: Examine an academic article

Sep 29: Conceptualization, operationalization, measurement

Oct 13: Your own survey!

Nov 3: Regression explained!

Nov 17: List of five conferences

Research Design Project 50%

This course aims to teach you how to select, design and implement research projects in political science. In designing our projects, we usually begin with a puzzle/research question; review existing literature on the question; develop a theoretical argument and a set of hypotheses; and then design an empirical analysis of the hypotheses before moving to data collection and analyses. Over the course of the semester, you'll be asked to engage in each of these steps – up to the data collection and analyses section. You have the freedom to choose your topic, as long as it is a political science topic/question. The components of the research design are:

- A one to two page "puzzle statement" (September 8): Collect 3-4 research questions that you are interested in and list them. Then identify the research question that is of most interest to you. Note that, while this is a short writing assignment, it will require some background reading and research. You are strongly encouraged to ask faculty in your area of interest for suggestions about what to read and/or what questions have yet to be addressed satisfactorily. (5%)

- A five- to seven-page literature review, summarizing past research on your given topic (October 6). Read some of the political science literature related to your chosen question, and decide how to situate your question/interests in this literature. What have others already argued? What have they found? How can their theoretical approaches be improved upon or synthesized? Note that the literature is not simply an annotated bibliography, or a "he said, she said" that summarizes a bunch of things you've read. Rather, a good literature review identifies what the state of knowledge is, discusses where the shortcomings/openings are, and sets up your own theoretical thinking on the subject. (10%)

- Short Research Proposal: Submit a 1-2 page single-spaced discussion of the project you are considering for your research proposal assignment, plus cover page and references on separate pages. The short research proposal should identify a "big question" that you are interested in, and then break it up into several smaller questions that you could address; it should consider key concepts and how those might be considered within your research proposal. As you work on this assignment, use Geddes' discussion of how to approach a research proposal as your guide. This assignment is due in electronic form prior to class on Octocer 27. (10%)

- A five to seven page theory/hypothesis discussion (due November 17) in which you advance a causal argument about your chosen puzzle, and develop one or more causal claims which flow from this argument. This document should culminate with the statement of one or more testable hypotheses. (10%)

- You'll combine these pieces, or revised versions of them, into your final course assignment, which is a full research design. The final paper will also include a section on planned empirical tests of your hypotheses. In that section, you should discuss how (using what sorts of methods, what kind of data, for which countries/cases, and why your chosen method and evidence is appropriate) you would test your hypotheses. You must submit your draft research design project via email to the whole class by December 5, 8pm. The final version of the design (after revisions following the presentations - see below) is due December 12, Monday, 8pm by email (only to me). (15%)

Research Design Presentations and Discussant Comments 10%

Each student will present their research design project in class on December 8, Thursday. The presentations will be no longer than 10 minutes. You must use power point, keynote, or beamer for these presentations. These presentations will be followed by 5-minutes discussant comments (see below) and by a 5-minutes Q&A section. Your grade will be determined based on your presentation and your performance during the Q&A section. Each student will discuss one other paper (following the presentation) for 5 minutes. These discussant comments should be emailed to me by December 7, Wednesday, 8pm. You are encouraged to use visual aids for the discussion, but it is not required.

Overview of Research Project Deadlines

Unless noted, the deadline is before the class start time, i.e. 2pm):

Sep 8: A one to two page "puzzle statement" for the research design project

Oct 6: A five to seven page literature review for the research design project

Oct 27: A one to two page research proposal

Nov 17: A five to seven page theory/hypothesis discussion for the research design project

Dec 5, 8pm: Draft research design project to the whole class via email

Dec 7, 8pm: Discussant comments (in bullet points) only to Daniel

Dec 8: In-class presentations and discussions of research design projects

Dec 12, 8pm: The final version of the research design project is due

Class Policy:

- **Attendance** Regular attendance is essential for your academic success. While I don't take attendance, your participation grade and likely all other grades will suffer if you miss too many sessions.

- **Communication** The most reliable way to get in touch with me is via email. You should expect a response within 48 business hours.

- **Academic Honesty and Integrity** This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity Policy as found on the Student' Responsibilities page of the CSU General Catalog and in the Student Conduct Code. At a minimum, violations will result in a grading penalty in this course and a report to the Office of Student Resolution Center. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation.

- **Accommodations** Your experience in this class is important to me. If you require any accommodation, let me know ahead of time what would be helpful so that we can plan together for you to succeed. You do not need to share private information with me, but you must provide verifiable documentation to the Office of Student Case Management or Student Disability Center. For religious accommodations, please complete the Religious Accommodation Request Form. Please provide verifiable documentation to them (not to me!) ahead of time and ensure that they forward me this information *at least one week* prior to the assignment for which accommodations are required. I cannot make adjustments after the fact.

- **Late Assignments** I will accept no late assignments. Exceptions are granted only if the Office of Student Case Management is able to provide documentation of a health emergency or other life emergency. If you experience an emergency, please contact Student Case Management, which will then contact me.

- **Grievances** If you are unhappy with your grade on an assignment, please wait 48 hours after the assignment is returned before contacting me. This provides the opportunity to let the initial emotions subside and think more clearly about the issue at hand. After 48 hours, you can contact me with a written explanation of why you feel your grade should be different. "I worked hard" is not a good explanation; I can only grade the quality of the work that you give to me! Based on this petition, I will decide whether to re-grade your assignment. However, be advised that your grade may move upwards or downwards.

- **Intellectual Growth** The goal of this class is the personal and intellectual growth of all students. Every student is expected to participate in the generation of an respectful and professional environment that facilitates this growth.

    - Woolley, Kaitlin, and Ayelet Fishbach. 2022. "Motivating personal growth by seeking discomfort." *Psychological Science*, 33.4: 510-523.

- **Mental Health** Feeling like a big failure and worried that everybody will find out? Guess what, you are not alone! Imposter syndrom is very common in graduate school. There are ways we as a class can help each others. Be respectful and mindful in how you interact with your colleagues. Always contribute to an open and engaging class environment. I strongly encourage students to ask questions. If you don't understand something, you are usually not alone. There are mental health resources available online and on campus. You can also read more about the issue here:

    - Almasri, N., Read, B. and Vandeweerdt, C., 2022. "Mental Health and the PhD: Insights and Implications for Political Science." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 55(2), pp.347-353. (Available online).

Additional Resources and Policies

Check out this link for policies relevant to your courses and resources to help with various challenges you may encounter: https://col.st/2FA2g. This includes information about technical support, universal design for learning/accommodation of needs, undocumented student support, etc.

Literature Management Software:

A literature management software that organizes your classes, readings, and notes can be an indispensable tool for success in any Masters or PhD program. I *strongly* recommend that students install and use one of the many liteature or reference management systems. Very commonly used are Mendeley, Zotero, and Bibdesk. For emacs users, there is org-ref and helm-bibtex.

Grading Policy

Grade	Range
A+	100% to 96.67%
A	<96.67% to 93.33%
A-	<93.33% to 90.00%
B+	<90.0% to 86.67%
B	<86.67% to 83.33%
B-	<83.33% to 80.00%
C+	<80.00% to 76.67%
C	<76.67% to 70.00%
D	<70.00% to 60.00%
F	<60.00% to 0%

Tentative Course Outline:

Week 01: Introduction: What is Political Science? 2022-08-25

1. Grant, J. Tobin. 2005. "What Divides Us? The Image and Organization of Political Science." *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 38(3): 379-386.

2. King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Ch. 1 "The *Science* in Social Science."

Optional Readings:

1. R. E. Goodin and H. D. Klingemann, "Political Science the Discipline" in R. E. Goodin and H.D. Klingemann (eds.) *The New Handbook of Political Science.*

2. Dogan, Mattei. "Political Science and the Other Social Sciences" in R. E. Goodin and H.D. Klingemann (eds.) *The New Handbook of Political Science.*

Professionalization: "Surving and Thriving in Grad School" with Dr. Daniel Weitzel

- A short blog post on graduate school: An Open Letter From The New DGS

- Barham, E. and Wood, C., 2022. "Teaching the Hidden Curriculum in Political Science." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 55(2), pp.324-328.

Assignments:

- After class, please send me an email in which you briefy describe your research interests, career goals as well as your expectations and concerns about the class. I will use this information to further tailor the class toward the interests and needs of the group.

Week 02: Research questions 2022-09-01

1. Eidlin, Fred. 2011. "The Method of Problems versus the Method of Topics." *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 44(4): 758-761.

2. Gustafsson, K. and Hagström, L., 2018. "What is the point? Teaching graduate students how to construct political science research puzzles." *European Political Science*, 17(4), pp.634-648.

Optional Readings:

1. Gerring, J. and Seawright, J., 2022. "Soaking and Poaking", in *Finding your Social Science Project*, Ch. 7, Cambridge University Press.

2. Geddes, Barbara. 2010. "Big Questions, Little Answers: How the Questions You Choose Affect the Answers You Get" *Paradigms and Sand Castles*: Ch. 2, The University of Michigan Press.

3. Gerring, John. 2012. "Beginnings" *Social Science Methodology: A Unified Framework*: Ch. 2, Cambridge University Press.

Professionalization: "CSU Hidden Curriculum and early steps for preparing for comps" with Erin Fitz and Gabriella Gricius

- "A Guide to Preparing for and Taking Comprehensive Examinations" University of Oregon. Available here

- Lampe and Kesgin. "Hazing in the Discipline: The Comprehensive Examination in Political Science." University of Iowa. Available here

- GradHacker. 2012. "Surviving Studying for Comprehensive Exams" Available here

Assignments:

- Write down at least five empirical topics/questions that interest you either professionally or personally and that you may be interested in researching further. Include at least one question/topic that an employer or public organization may ask you to answer or learn more about. (For example: An employee of the EPA may be asked to examine gas station practices on closure in Alaska.) For each question, list a few ways to 'discover' the answers or additional information on the topics/questions.

Week 03: Theory and Models 2022-09-08

1. Clarke, Kevin A., and David M. Primo. 2007. "Modernizing Political Science: A Model-Based Approach." Perspectives on Politics. 5(4): 741-753.

2. Van Evera, Stephen. 1997. "Hypotheses, Laws, and Theories: A User's Guide" in *Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press: 7-48.

3. Wagner, R.H., 2001. "Who's afraid of 'rational choice theory'." Typescript, Department of Government, University of Texas, Austin. Available online

4. Morgan, S.L. and Winship, C., 2015. "Introduction" in *Counterfactuals and Causal Inference.* Cambridge University Press. ONLY pages 24-30.

Optional Readings:

1. Gerring, John. 2012. "Arguments" in *Social Science Methodology: A Unified Framework*: Ch. 3, Cambridge University Press.

2. Kellstedt, P.M. and Whitten, G.D., 2018. "The Art of Theory Building" in *The fundamentals of political science research.* Ch. 2, Cambridge University Press.

Professionalization: "Research Tools" with Dr. Daniel Weitzel

- Healy, Kieren. 2013. "Choosing Your Workflow Applications." Available here
- How to Choose a Citation Manager Available here

Assignments:

- Research "puzzle statement" is due at the beginning of class.

Week 04: Ethics in Research Methods 2022-09-15

1. Michelson, M.R., 2016. "The risk of over-reliance on the institutional review board: An approved project is not always an ethical project." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 49(2), pp.299-303.

2. Fujii, L.A., 2012. "Research ethics 101: Dilemmas and responsibilities." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 45(4), pp.717-723.

Optional Readings:

1. Carlson, E., 2020. "Field experiments and behavioral theories: science and ethics". *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 53(1), pp.89-93.

2. McVean, Ada. 2019. 40 Years of Human Experimentation in America: The Tuskegee Study. Available here

3. Boustead, A.E. and Herr, T., 2020. "Analyzing the ethical implications of research using leaked data". *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 53(3), pp.505-509.

Professionalization: "Translating academic skills to the resume" with Dr. Madeline Schomburg

- Lau, O. and Yohai, I., 2016. "Using quantitative methods in industry." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 49(3), pp.524-526.

- Hill, K.Q., 2021. "Research Career Paths Among Political Scientists in Research Institutions." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 54(2), pp.271-275.

- PhD Graduate? Five Places to Look for a Job. Available here

Assignments:

- Turn in the human subjects training course completion verification. Link to training.

Week 05: Research Design 2022-09-22

1. Geddes, Barbara. 2003. "Research Design and the Accumulation of Knowledge" in *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*, Ch. 1, University of Michigan Press.

2. Geddes, Barbara. 1990. "How the cases you choose affect the answers you get: Selection bias in comparative politics." *Political Analysis*, 2: 131-50.

Optional Readings:

1. Stimson, James. "Professional Writing in Political Science: A Highly opinionated Essay." Available here

2. University of Essex. "How to improve your academic writing." Avaiable here.

Professionalization: "Computational Social Sciences" with TBD

- TBD

Assignments:

- What does a refereed political science (any subfield) journal article look like? Read a refereed journal article in any subfield of political science that was published in the last two years. Write a two-page summary and reaction to the article. Please submit a copy of the article with the assignment.

Week 06: Conceptualization and Measurement 2022-09-29

1. Adcock, Robert and David Collier. 2001. "Measurement Validity: A Shared Standard for Qualitative and Quantitative Research." *American Political Science Review* 95(3): 529-546.

2. Sartori, Giovanni. 1970. "Concept Misinformation in Comparative Politics." *American Political Science Review* 64(4): 1033-1053.

3. Collier, David, and James E. Mahon. 1993. "Conceptual Stretching Revisited: Adapting Categories in Comparative Analysis." *American Political Science Review* 87(4): 845-855.

Optional Readings:

1. Elkins, Zachary. 2000. "Gradations of Democracy? Empirical Tests of Alternative Conceptualizations." *American Journal of Political Science* 44(2): 293-300.

2. Treier, Shawn and Jackman, Simon. 2008. "Democracy as a Latent Variable." *American Journal of Political Science.* 52(1):201-217

3. Gerring, John. 2011. Social Science Methodology : A Unified Framework. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, MA. Chapter 5-7

Professionalization: "How to best approach your thesis or dissertation" with Dr. Julia Lee

- Davis, Don. 2001. "PhD Thesis Research: Where Do I Start?" Available here

- Cochrane, John H. 2005. "Writing Tips for Ph.D. Students." Graduate School of Business. University of Chicago.

- Stephen B. Rothman. 2008. "Comparatively Evaluating Potential Dissertation and Thesis Projects." *PS: Political Science and Politics* (April): 367-369.

Assignments:

- Go back to your research question and clearly state how you conceptualize, operationalize, and measure your dependent and your independent variable. 2 pages, double-spaced.

Week 07: Experiments and Causality 2022-10-06

1. Pearl, Judea and Dana Mackenzie. 2018. "The Ladder of Causation" in *The Book of Why: The New Science of Cause and Effect.* Ch.1. Basic Books.

2. Falleti, Tulia G., and Julia F. Lynch. 2009. "Context and Causal Mechanisms in Political Analysis." *Comparative Political Studies* 42(9): 1143-66.

3. Fearon, James D. 1991. "Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing in Political Science." *World Politics* 43: 169-195.

Optional Readings:

1. McDermott, Rose. 2002. "Experimental Methods in Political Science." *Annual Review of Political Science* 5: 31–61.

2. Imbens, Guido and Rubin, Donald D. 2015. *Causal Inference for Statistics, Social, and Biomedical Sciences: An Introduction.* Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, MA. Chapters 1 & 2: pages 3–30

3. Cunningham: Chapters "Directed acyclical graphs" & "Potential outcomes causal model. Available online

Professionalization: "Early steps to the job market and life after graduate school" with Dr. Iasmin Goes and Dr. Peter Harris

- Hassner, Ron. 2008. "Trial by Fire: Surviving the Job Talk Q&A," *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 41(4): 803-808.

- Drezner, Daniel. 1998. "So You Want to Get a Tenure-Track Job..." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 31: 609-614.

- Miller, William J. and Bobbi Gentry. 2011. "Navigating the Academic Job Market in Treacherous Times." *PS: Political Science and Politics.*

- Murakami, Michael H. 2012. "The Broad Value of a PhD in Political Science." *PS: Political Science and Politics.*

- Kosar, Kevin R. 2016. "Preparing for Unforeseen Opportunities Outside Academia." *PS: Political Science and Politics.* 49(3).

Assignments:

- Literature review is due at beginning of class.

Week 08: Sampling, Surveys, and Questionnaires 2022-10-13

1. Alvarez, R.M. and Brehm, J., 2020. "A Fickle Public", in *Hard choices, easy answers.*, Ch. 1, Princeton University Press.

2. King, G., Murray, C.J., Salomon, J.A. and Tandon, A., 2004. "Enhancing the validity and cross-cultural comparability of measurement in survey research." *American Political Science Review*, 98(1), pp.191-207.

Optional Readings:

1. Babbie, Earl. 1999. "The Logic of Sampling." in *The Basics of Social Research*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company: 169-207.

2. Krosnick, Jon A. 1991. "Response Strategies for Coping with the Cognitive Demands of Attitude Measures in Surveys." *Applied Cognitive Psychology* 5: 213-236.

3. Luskin, R.C. and Bullock, J.G., 2011. " "Don't know" means "don't know": DK responses and the public's level of political knowledge." *The Journal of Politics*, 73(2), pp.547-557.

4. BISHOP, George F., Robert W. Oldendick, and Alfred J. Tuchfarber. 1982. "Political Information Processing: Question Order and Context Effects." *Political Behavior* 4(2): 177-200.

Professionalization: "Normative Political Science" with Dr. David McIvor

- TBD

Assignments:

- Build a short survey in qualtrics on a subject you would like to research and is amenable to survey methods. Send the survey to the entire class.

1. Gerring, John. 2004. "What is a Case Study and What is it Good for?" *American Political Science Review* 98(2): 341-354.

2. Ricks, J.I. and Liu, A.H., 2018. "Process-tracing research designs: a practical guide." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 51(4), pp. 842-846.

3. Levi, Margaret and Weingast, Barry R. 2017. "Analytic Narratives, Case Studies, and Development." Working Paper. Available at SSRN

Optional Readings:

1. Dunning, Thad. "Improving Process Tracing: The Case of Multi-Method Research." in: *Process Tracing: From Metaphor to Analytic Tool.* Edited by Bennet, Andrew and Jeffrey T. Checkel. Chpt. 8.

2. Gerring, John. 2007. "Case Study Research: Principles and Practices." Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, MA.

3. KKV section 6.1 (pages 208-213)

4. Weyland, Kurt. 2016. "Crafting Counterrevolution: How Reactionaries Learned to Combat Change in 1848." *American Political Science Review.* 110(2): 215–31.

Professionalization: "How to do fieldwork" with Dr. Marcela Velasco

- Jensenius, Francesca Refsum. 2014. "The Fieldwork of Quantitative Data Collection." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 47(2): 402-404.

- Scoggins, Suzanne E. 2014. "Navigating Fieldwork as an Outsider: Observations from Interviewing Police Officers in China." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 47(2): 394-397.

- Leech, Beth. 2002. "Asking Questions: Techniques for Semistructured Interviews." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 35(4): 665-668.

Assignments:

- None

Week 10: Quantitative Research Design 2022-10-27

1. Babbie, Earl. 1999. "Quantitative Data Analysis." and "The Logic of Multivariate Analysis" in *The Basics of Social Research.* Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company: 169-207.

2. Schrodt, Philip A. 2014. "Seven Deadly Sins of Contemporary Quantitative Political Analysis." *Journal of Peace Research* 51(2): 287-300.

Optional Readings:

1. Roberts, M.E., 2018. "What is political methodology?." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 51(3), pp.597-601.

2. King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. *Designing Social Inquiry.* Ch: 4-5

3. Achen, Christopher H. 2005. "Let's Put Garbage-Can Regressions and Garbage-Can Probits Where They Belong." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 22: 327-339.

4. Wooldridge, J.M., 2015. *Introductory econometrics: A modern approach.* Chapter 1 + 2, Cengage learning.

5. Aronow, Peter M. and Cyrus Samii. 2016. "Does Regression Produce Representative Estimates of Causal Effects?" *American Journal of Political Science.* 60(1):250-267.

Professionalization: "How to write for academics and practitioners" with Dr. Dom Stecula

- Rich, Timothy S. 2013. "Publishing as a Graduate Studeny: A Quick and (Hopefully) Painless Guide to Establishing Yourself as a Scholar." *PS: Political Science and Politics.*

- Polsky, Andrew J. 2007. "Seeing Your Name in Print: Unpacking the Mysteries of the Review Process at Political Science Scholarly Journals." *PS: Political Science and Politics.*

- Giles, Micheal W. and James C. Garand. 2007. "Ranking Political Science Journals: Reputational and Citational Approaches." *PS: Political Science and Politics.*

- Garand, James C. and Micheal W. Giles. 2011. "Ranking Scholarly Publishers in Political Science: An Alternative Approach." *PS: Political Science and Politics.*

Assignments:

- Short Proposal is due at beginning of class.

Week 11: Mixed-method designs: The Case for Pluralism 2022-11-03

1. Hunter, A. and Brewer, J.D., 2015. "Designing multimethod research." in Hesse-Biber, S.N. and Johnson, R.B. eds., *The Oxford handbook of multimethod and mixed methods research inquiry*. Oxford University Press.

2. Seawright, Jason, and John Gerring. 2008. "Case Selection Techniques in Case Study Research: A Menu of Qualitative and Quantitative Options." *Political Research Quarterly* 61:2: 294-308.

Optional Readings:

1. Brady, Henry E. 2004/2010. "Doing Good and Doing Better: How Far Does the Quantitative Template Get Us?" Chapter 3 in Brady and Collier, Eds., *Rethinking Social Inquiry.*

2. Dunning, Thad. 2012. *Natural Experiments in the Social Sciences: A Design-Based Approach.* Ch. 11

3. Bartels, Larry M. 2004/2010. "Some Unfullfilled Promises of Quantitative Imperialism." Chapter 4 in Brady and Collier, Eds., *Rethinking Social Inquiry.*

4. Mahoney, James. 2010. "After KKV: The New Methodology of Qualitative Research." *World Politics* 62(1): 120-147.

Professionalization: "Making the most out of your GTA/GRA appointment" with Dr. JB Bae

- Webb, Derek. 2005. "Twelve Easy Steps to Becoming an Effective Teaching Assistant." *PS: Political Science and Politics.*

- Burmila, Edward M. 2010. "Graduate Students as Independent Instructors: Seven Things to Know about Teaching Your Own Course while in Graduate School." *PS: Political Science and Politics.*

Assignments:

- Find a journal article of interest to you that uses basic regression techniques. Make a copy of the printouts/tables. Interpret the printout. This includes writing the equation, noting what variables are statistically significant (and at what level), and writing a sentence about what each significant variable means in real words.

Week 12: Students Choice! 2022-11-10
We will discuss and vote on the content of this class in week 10.

1. TBD
2. TBD
3. TBD

Optional Readings:

1. TBD
2. TBD

Professionalization: "Managing your time: Work-life balance in graduate school" with Dr. Matthew Hitt

- Almasri, N., Read, B. and Vandeweerdt, C., 2022. "Mental Health and the PhD: Insights and Implications for Political Science." *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 55(2), pp.347-353
- A Realistic Guide to Time Management
- How to Craft the Perfect Daily Schedule
- The productivity tax you pay for context switching

Assignments:

- Take some time off and reward yourself for all the work you have put into this semester!

Week 13: Rational Choice and Formal Modeling 2022-11-17

1. Laver, M. 1997. "Introduction". *Private Desires, Political Action. An Invitation to the Politics of Rational Choice.* London: Sage. Ch. 1.

2. Schiemann, J.W. 2000. "Meeting Halfway Between Rochester and Frankfurt: Generative salience, Focal Points, and Strategic Interaction", *American Journal of Political Science* 44, 1-16.

3. Downs, A. 1957. "Introduction" in *An Economic Theory of Democracy.* New York: Harper & Row. Ch. 1.

Optional Readings:

1. J. Morrow. Game Theory for Political Scientists, chpt. 1, 2, 3, 4.

2. Little, Andrew T. and Tom B. Pepinsky. 2016. "Simple and Formal Models in Comparative Politics." Chinese Political Science Review. 1: 425–447.

Professionalization: "Presenting, Discussing, and Conference 101" with Dr. Courtenay Daum

- Miller, Beth, Jon Pevehouse, Ron Rogowski, Dustin Tingley, and Rick Wilson. 2013. "How To Be a Peer Reviewer: A Guide for Recent and Soon-to-be PhDs," *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 46(1).

- Rutherford, Amanda. 2015. "Conquering the 'Lumbering Dinosaur:' Graduate Student Experiences at Political Science Conferences." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 48(2): 324-327.

- Lake, David. 2013. "Networking at Conferences: Not Just for Graduate Students and Junior Faculty." Available here

Assignments:

- Theory and Hypotheses document is due at beginning of class.

- Submit a list of five conferences and their application deadlines. Include 2-3 subfield specific conferences that are relevant for your academic interests.

Week 14: Thanksgiving Break 2022-11-24

- Remember the discussions from the work-life balance session. Use this time to get some rest!

Week 15: Quo Vadis Political Science? 2022-12-01

1. Grimmer, Justin. 2015. "We Are All Social Scientists Now: How Big Data, Machine Learning, and Causal Inference Work Together" *PS: Political Science & Politics.* 48(1):80-83.

2. Torres, Michelle, and Francisco Cantú. 2022. "Learning to See: Visual Analysis for Social Science Data." *Political Analysis* 30(1): 113-131.

3. Grimmer, J., Roberts, M.E. and Stewart, B.M., 2022. "Social Science Research and Text as Data" in *Text as data: A new framework for machine learning and the social sciences.* Princeton University Press.

Optional Readings:

1. Boulianne, S., and Hoffmann, C. P. (2022). "The Social, Civic, and Political Uses of Instagram in Four Countries." *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*, 2.

2. Tarr, Alexander, June Hwang, and Kosuke Imai. "Automated Coding of Political Campaign Advertisement Videos: An Empirical Validation Study."

3. Mitrani, M., Adams, T. and Noy, I., 2022. "Can We Algorithmize Politics? The Promise and Perils of Computerized Text Analysis in Political Research." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, pp.1-6.

4. Clark, W.R. and Golder, M., 2015. "Big data, causal inference, and formal theory: Contradictory trends in political science?: Introduction." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 48(1), pp.65-70.

5. Monroe, B.L., Pan, J., Roberts, M.E., Sen, M. and Sinclair, B., 2015. "No! Formal theory, causal inference, and big data are not contradictory trends in political science." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 48(1), pp.71-74.

Professionalization: Mock conference preparation

- We will discuss the rules and expextations for the mock political science conference next week.

Assignments:

- None

Additional material: In case you want to go *even* further.

1. More advanced textbooks about statistics

   - Imai, Kosuke, *Quantitative Social Science: An Introduction*, Princeton University Press, 2018.
   - Angrist, Joshua D. and Jörn-Steffen Pischke, *Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion.*, Princeton University Press, 2009.
   - Morgan, Stephen L. and Christopher Winship, *Counterfactuals and Causal Inference*, Cambridge University Press, 2007.
   - Wackerly, Denis, William Mendenhall, Richard L. Scheaffer, *Mathematical Statistics with Applications*, Thomson Brooks/Cole, 2008.
   - Casella, George and Roger L. Berger, *Statistical Inference*, Cengage Learning, 2001. *(very advanced!)*
   - Healy, Kieran, *Data Visualization: A Practical Introduction.*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019.

2. Fun reads

   - Mcgrayne, Sharon Bertsch, *The Theory That Would Not Die: How Bayes' Rule Cracked the Enigma Code, Hunted Down Russian Submarines, and Emerged Triumphant from Two Centuries of Controversy*, Yale University Press, 2012.
   - Silver, Nate *The Signal and the Noise: Why So Many Predictions Fail - but Some Don't*, Penguin Books, 2015.
   - Pearl, Judea and Dana Mackenzie, *The Book of Why: The New Science of Cause and Effect*, Basic Books, 2018.
   - Salsburg, David, *The Lady Tasting Tea: How Statistics Revolutionized Science in the Twentieth Century*, Holt Paperbacks, 2002.

3. Movie:

   - *Behind the curve*, a documentary about the Flat Earth movement that highlights the importance of a rigorous scientific approach with falsifiable hypotheses.