POLS 506: Qualitative Methods
Michael Rich, Wednesday 9:00am – 12:00pm, MAX: 8

Content: This course provides an introduction to qualitative and multimethod research in political science and related social science disciplines. While the course will largely focus on qualitative methods, a primary emphasis will be to increase students’ understanding of how and why to use mixed- or multi-method research strategies that combine qualitative and quantitative tools to examine political and social phenomenon, particularly in studies that seek to draw causal inferences.

By qualitative research we refer to research studies that use small numbers of intensive observations, that do not rely on statistical tests for drawing causal inferences, and strive to understand causal mechanisms and processes as well as causal effects. Our primary emphasis in this course will be on issues of research design, particularly as they pertain to issues of conceptualization and measurement, case selection, within-case and cross-case analysis, and strategies for minimalizing threats to valid inference. Examples and illustrations of a variety of tools and techniques of qualitative and multimethod research will be drawn from many subfields in political science and related social science disciplines. Students will be encouraged to consider how these tools might be incorporated into their own research studies including dissertations and honors theses.

Text:
Gary Goertz and James Mahoney, A Tale of Two Cultures: Qualitative and Quantitative Research in the Social Sciences.

Henry Brady and David Collier, Rethinking Social Inquiry, 2d ed.


Gary Goertz, Multimethod Research, Causal Mechanisms, and Case Studies.

Selected journal articles, book chapters, reports, and studies, that will be available electronically.
POL 509: Linear Model
Zac Peskowitz, Thursday 8:30am – 11:30am, MAX: 8

Content: Political Science 509 is an introduction to probability and statistics for Political Science PhD students. In the first half of the course we will cover the foundations of probability theory, properties of random variables, asymptotic approximations, methods for developing and evaluating statistical estimators, and hypothesis testing. The second half of the course will develop the linear regression model with a focus on its assumptions, statistical properties, inference, and diagnostics. An additional goal of the course is to improve students' statistical computing skills through in-class exercises and problem sets.

Text:
Mathematical Statistics and Data Analysis, 3rd edition.
ISBN: 9780534399429
Duxbury.

POL 510: World Politics
Dan Reiter, Monday 1:00pm – 4:00pm, MAX: 8

Content: This is the introductory course to international relations for political science graduate students. The emphasis is theoretical, covering issues such as international conflict, decision making, trade, and system structure. The class uses a discussion format.

Particulars: One exam; several short papers. All students other than political science graduate students must receive permission from the instructor.

Text:
Mearsheimer, John. 2014.
The Tragedy of Great Power Politics.
ISBN: 9780393349276
W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Russett, Bruce M. 2000.
Triangulating Peace.
ISBN: 9780393976847
W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Man, the State, and War.
ISBN: 9780231125376
Columbia University Press.
POLS 513 Intro to Game Theory  
Shawn Ramirez, Thursday, 1:00pm – 4:00pm, MAX: 8

Content: Introduction to game theory. The focus of the class will be on the basic tools and solution concepts of game theory. We will also consider the usefulness of formal theory and its appropriate/inappropriate application.

Particulars:  
Exams—Midterm and final exams  
Grading—Midterm exam-30%; Final exam-40%; Problem sets-30%

Text:  
Osborne, Martin J. 2012.  
Introduction to Game Theory.  
ISBN: 9780198086109  
Oxford University Press.

POLS 571: Longitudinal Data Analysis  
Greg Martin, Monday 9:00am – 12:00pm, MAX: 8

Content: Data with a time dimension are ubiquitous in applied political science research. This course covers quantitative methods for dealing with time series, panels, and event histories. We will cover both theory and applications of these methods, with the goal of getting students up to speed to be both producers and consumers of cutting-edge empirical research.

Text:  
Cameron, A. Colin and Trivedi, Pravin. 2005.  
Microeconometrics: Methods and Applications.  
Cambridge University Press.
POLS 585 SEM: Variable Topics Seminar  
**Topic/Title: Political Economy of Public Policy**  
Pablo Montagnes and Zachary Peskowitz, Tuesday 1:00pm – 4:00pm, MAX 6

**Content:** This class uses modern political economy to introduce students to the politics of the policymaking process. We will develop general principles for thinking about policymaking that can be applied across a range of issue areas. We will focus on drawing connections between fields and a modern approach to political economy research questions.

**Text:**  
Bueno de Mesquita, Ethan.  
Political Economy for Public Policy.  
ISBN: 9780691168746  
Princeton University Press.

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POLS 585 SEM: Variable Topics Seminar  
**Topic/Title: Political Institutions**  
Jennifer Gandhi, Wednesday 1:00pm – 4:00pm, MAX: 8

**Content:** This course is designed to introduce students to the theoretical problems that institutions address and substantive illustrations of those problems. The class begins with an overview of current approaches to research on institutions and continues with a more detailed focus on specific social problems institutions are designed to solve, such as delegation, collective action, and preference aggregation. For each theoretical problem, the course will cover substantive applications from across the various subfields in political science. Additional issues, such as institutional change and endogeneity, not covered in detail will be introduced at the end of the course.

**Text:**  
No texts ordered.
POLS 585 SEM: Variable Topics Seminar  
Topic/Title: Design/Analysis Experiments  
Natalia Bueno, Monday & Wednesday, 4:00pm - 5:15pm, MAX: 6

Content: The use of experiments has grown notably across the social sciences, with the promise of delivering simple, transparent, and replicable causal inference. This course will discuss the design, analysis, and interpretation of introductory and advanced experimental designs. The first part of the course covers the theory and logic of experiments. The second part covers issues and challenges in implementing experiments that deliver on their promises. Topics include: models of potential outcomes, blocking and covariate adjustment, non-compliance, attrition, heterogeneous treatment effects, interference, mediation, and ethics. Assignments will focus on developing practical skills for the implementation of experiments in real research settings.

Text:  
Field Experiments: Design, Analysis, and Interpretation.  
ISBN: 9780393979954  
New York: W. W. Norton.

POLS 585 SEM: Variable Topics Seminar  
Topic/Title: Design/Analysis Experiments  
Andra Gillespie, Tuesday, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Content: This course explores the relationship of racial and ethnic minorities (African, Latino/a, and Asian American) to the American state. We will cover topics related to how minorities engage with and are affected by political institutions. We will also explore the ways that differences in political and social experiences across these groups informs different political strategies and preferences. Assignments include short papers, co-leading class discussions, a term paper and a take-home exam.

Text:  


ISBN: 978-0300175196: Kinder, Donald and Allison Dale-Riddle. The End of Race?


ISBN: 978-1589017023 Tate, Katherine. What’s Going On?


