

**University of Washington
Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs**

Research Design

PBAF 502

Fall 2010

Mondays 10:00 to 12:50

Professor Sanjeev Khagram
Office Hours: Weds 10-12 (and by appt.)
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces graduate students to interdisciplinary foundations of research in the applied social sciences, and develops practical skills for conducting research. The goal is to provide solid grounding in philosophies of knowledge and the logics of research design, but not to achieve proficiency in any one methodology. By the end of the semester, you will be able to (1) understand different major philosophy of knowledge traditions that undergird research; (2) compare and contrast the types of research designs and methods appropriate for addressing particular research questions; (3) design your own research project in a dissertation prospectus or grant proposal; and (4) identify methodological strengths and weaknesses in published research in your field.

EXPECTATIONS AND GRADING

Students will be graded in three areas: 1) in-class participation worth 20%, 2) one in-class facilitation of required readings worth 20%, 3) an oral presentation based on interviewing a faculty member on one of her/his best pieces of research worth 20%, and 4) a research proposal worth 40% of the final grade.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required

- Readings packets

Suggested Book to Purchase

- James Clifford and George R. Marcus (eds.). 1986. Writing Culture: The Poetics and Politics of Ethnography. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Charles C. Ragin. 1987. The Comparative Method: Moving Beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln (eds.). 1994. Handbook of Qualitative Research. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.
- Robert K. Yin. 1994. Case Study Research. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.
- Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Stephen Van Evera. 1997. Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press.
- Henry E. Brady and David Collier (eds.). 2002. Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards. Berkeley: University of California Public Policy Press.
- Donald T. Campbell and Julian C. Stanley. 2002. Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs for Research. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

SCHEDULE

Week 1: October 4

Competing Theory Types

Required:

- a) Milton Friedman. 1953. "The Methodology of Positive Economics." Essays in Positive Economics. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, **pp. 3-43**.
- b) Clifford Geertz. 1973. The Interpretive Theory of Culture. Chapter 1, "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture." Boulder: Basic Books, **pp. 3-30**.
- c) Barney Glaser and Anselm Strauss. 1967. The Discovery of Grounded Theory. Chicago: Aldine Publishing, **pp. 1 – 43, 237 – 257**.

Recommended:

- a) C. Wright Mills. 1959. The Sociological Imagination. Oxford: Oxford University Press, **pp. 3 – 24, 119 - 164**.
- b) Arthur Stinchcombe. 1987. Constructing Social Theories. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, **pp. 3 – 56**.
- c) Atul Kohli, et al. 1995. "The Role of Theory in Comparative Politics." World Politics, 48, **pp. 1-49**.

Week 2: October 11

Naturalistic and Realistic Philosophies

Required:

- a) Karl Popper. 1963. "Science: Conjectures and Refutation," in Martin Curd & Jan A. Cover (eds.), 1998, Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues, New York: Norton, **pp. 3-10**.
- b) Karl Popper. 1959. "The Problem of Induction," in Martin Curd & Jan A. Cover (eds.), 1998, Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues, New York: Norton, **pp. 426-432**.
- c) Thomas S. Kuhn. 1970. "Logic of Discovery or Psychology of Research?," in Imre Lakatos and Alan Musgrave, (eds.), Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, **pp. 1-24**.
- d) Imre Lakatos. 1970. "Falsification and the Methodology of Scientific Research Programmes." In Imre Lakatos and Alan Musgrave, (eds.). Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, **pp. 91-146**.

Recommended:

- a) Carl Hempel. 1965. "The Function of General Laws in History," in Aspects of Scientific Explanation, New York: Free Press, pp. 231-244.
- b) Imre Lakatos. 1970. "Falsification and the Methodology of Scientific Research Programmes." In Imre Lakatos and Alan Musgrave, (eds.). Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 147-196.
- c) Wesley C. Salmon. 1973. "Confirmation." Scientific American, 228:5, pp. 75-83.
- d) David Papineau. 1996. "Philosophy of Science," in Nicholas Bunin and E.P. Tsui-James (eds.), The Blackwell Companion to Philosophy, Oxford: Blackwell, pp.290-324.

Week 3: October 18

Hermeneutic, Critical and Interpretive Philosophies

Required:

- a) The following chapters from Fred R. Dallmayr & Thomas A. McCarthy (eds.), 1977. Understanding and Social Inquiry. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press:
 - a.Authors, "Introduction: Max Weber on Verstehen," pp. 19-23
 - b.Max Weber, "Objectivity in Social Science and Social Policy," pp. 24-37
 - c.Authors, "Introduction: The Positivist Reception," pp. 77-80
 - d.Charles Taylor, "Interpretation and the Sciences of Man," pp. 101-131
- b) Stephen Eric Bronner and Douglass MacKay Kellner (eds.), 1989. Critical Theory and Society, London: Routledge, pp. 1-21.
- c) Jurgen Habermas. 1989. "The Tasks of a Critical Theory of Society." In Stephen Eric Bronner and Douglass MacKay Kellner (eds.), 1989. Critical Theory and Society, London: Routledge, pp. 292-312.
- d) Paul Rabinow and William M. Sullivan, 1987. "The Interpretive Turn: A Second Look," in Paul Rabinow and William M. Sullivan (eds.), Interpretive Social Science: A Second Look, Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 1-30.

Recommended :

- a) The following chapters from Fred R. Dallmayr & Thomas A. McCarthy (eds.), 1977. Understanding and Social Inquiry. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press:
 - a.Authors, Introduction: The Wittgensteinian Reformulation" pp. 137-141
 - b.Peter Winch, "The Idea of Social Science" pp. 142-158
 - c.Authors, "Introduction: Phenomenology and Ethnomethodology" pp. 219-224
 - d.Harold Garfinkel, "What is Ethnomethodology" pp. 240-261
 - e.Authors, "Introduction: Hermeneutics and Critical Theory" pp. 285-291
 - f.Paul Ricoeur, "Meaningful Action Considered as Text", pp. 316-334
- b) Cary Nelson, Paula A. Treichler, and Lawrence Grossberg. 1992. Cultural Studies, New York: Routledge, pp. 1-22.

- c) Pauline Marie Rosenau, 1992. Post-Modernism and the Social Sciences, Princeton: Princeton University Press, **pp.ix-24 and 167-194.**

Week 4: October 25th

No Class: Work on Faculty Interviews and Research Designs

Week 5: November 1

Constructivist and Reflexive Philosophies

Required:

- a) Anthony Giddens. 1979. Central Problems in Social Theory, Berkeley: University of California Press, **pp. 230-259.**
- b) John R. Searle, 1995. The Construction of Social Reality, New York: The Free Press, **pp.1-78.**
- c) Pierre Bourdieu and Loic J.D. Wacquant. 1992. An Invitation to Reflexive Sociology. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, **pp. 7-51.**

Recommended:

- a) Jon Elster. 1983. Explaining Technical Change: A Case Study in the Philosophy of Science. Cambridge. "Part I: Modes of Scientific Explanation," **pp. 15-88, 237-246.**
- b) Daniel Little. 1991. Varieties of Social Explanation, Boulder Westview Press, **pp. 222-238.**
- c) Pierre Bourdieu. 1980. The Logic of Practice, Stanford: Stanford University Press, **pp. 25-65.**
- d) Egon G. Guba and Yvonna S. Lincoln. 1994. "Competing Paradigms in Qualitative Research," in Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln (eds.), Handbook of Qualitative Research, Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, **pp. 105-117.**
- e) John R. Searle, 1995. The Construction of Social Reality, New York: The Free Press, **pp. 80-149.**

Week 6: November 8

Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs

Required:

- a) William R. Shadish, Thomas D. Cook, and Donald T. Campbell. 2002. Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs for Generalized Causal Inference. Houghton Mifflin,
 - i. "Experiments and Generalized Causal Inference." **pp. 1-32.**
 - ii. "Statistical Conclusion Validity and Internal Validity." **pp. 33-53.**
 - iii. "Construct Validity and External Validity." **pp. 64-82.**
 - iv. "Quasi-Experiments: Interrupted Time-Series Designs." **pp. 171-206.**

Recommended:

- a) William Trochim. "Design." <http://www.socialresearchmethods.net/kb/design.php>.
- b) Poverty Action Lab. <http://www.povertyactionlab.org/methodology>.

Week 7: November 15th

Statistical and Quasi-Statistical Research

Required:

- a) Gary King. 1986. "How Not to Lie With Statistics: Avoiding Common Mistakes in Quantitative Analysis," American Journal of Political Science, 30, pp. 666-687.
- b) Colin Howson and Peter Urbach. 1989. Scientific Reasoning: The Bayesian Approach. Ashland, OH: Open Court Publishing Co., pp. 106-112.
- c) Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research. Princeton: Princeton University Press, **Chapters 1-3**.
- d) Robert H. Bates, et al. 1998. "Introduction", in Analytic Narratives. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 3-22.
- e) Phillip E. Tetlock and Aaron Belkin. 1996. Counterfactual Thought Experiments in World Politics. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 1-38.

Recommended:

- a) Patrick Maher. 1988. "Prediction, Accommodation, and the Logic of Discovery," in A. Fine and J. Leplin (eds.), PSA 1988. Bloomington: Philosophy of Science Association, pp. 273-285.
- b) Deborah Mayo. 1991. "Novel Evidence and Severe Tests," Philosophy of Science 58, pp. 523-552.
- c) Colin Howson and Allan Franklin. 1991. "Maher, Mendelev, and Bayesianism," Philosophy of Science 60, pp. 574-585.
- d) Martin Curd and Jan A. Cover. 1998. "The Problem of Justification", in Martin Curd and Jan A. Cover (eds.), Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues. New York: Norton, pp. 497-501.
- e) Paul Holland. 1986. "Statistics and Causal Inference," Journal of the American Statistical Association, 81, Issue 396 (December), pp. 945-960.
- f) Richard A. Berk. 1988. "Causal Inference for Sociological Data," in Neil J. Smelser (ed.), Handbook of Sociology. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, pp. 155-172.
- g) Margaret Marini and Burton Singer. 1988. "Causality in the Social Sciences," in Clifford Clogg (ed.), Sociological Methodology 1988. Washington: ASA, pp. 347-409.
- h) Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research, Princeton: Princeton University Press, **Chapters 4-6**.

Week 8: November 22nd

Case-Study and Comparative Research

Required:

- a) Andrew Bennett. 1997. "Lost in the Translation: Big (N) Misinterpretations of Case Study Research." Draft Paper.
- b) Gerardo Munck. 1998. "Canons of Research Design in Qualitative Analysis," Studies in Comparative International Development, 33 (Fall), pp. 18-45.
- c) Charles Ragin. 1997. "Turning the Tables: How Case-Oriented Research Challenges Variable-Oriented Research," Comparative Social Research, 16, pp. 27-42.
- c) Timothy McKeown. 1999. "Case Studies and the Statistical Worldview: Review of KKV," International Organization 53:1 (Winter), pp. 161-190.
- d) Andrew Bennett. 2008. "Process Tracing: A Bayesian Perspective." In, *The Oxford Handbook of Political Methodology*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, pp. 702-721.

Recommended:

- a) Dietrich Rueschemeyer and John D. Stephens. 1997. "Comparing Historical Sequences – A Powerful Tool for Causal Analysis," Comparative Social Research, 16, pp. 55-72.
- b) Charles Ragin and David Zaret. 1983. "Theory and Method in Comparative Research: Two Strategies," Social Forces, 61:3 (March), pp. 731-755.
- c) Andrew Bennett and Alexander L. George. 2005. Case Studies and Theory Development, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- e) Henry E. Brady and David Collier (eds.), 2002. Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards, University of California, Berkeley: Public Policy Press.
- f) John Gerring. 2004. "What is a Case Study and What is it Good for?," American Political Science Review 98, pp. 341-354.
- g) John Gerring. 2007. "Techniques for Choosing Cases." In Case Study Research: Principles and Practices. Cambridge, pp. 86-122.
- h) Theda Skocpol and Margaret Somers. 1980. "The Uses of Comparative History in Macrosocial Inquiry," Comparative Studies in Society and History 22, pp. 174-97.
- i) Barbara Geddes. 2003. "How the Cases You Choose Affect the Answers You Get." In Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics. University of Michigan Press, pp. 89-129.
- j) James Mahoney and Gary Goertz. 2004. "The Possibility Principle: Choosing Negative Cases in Comparative Research." American Political Science Review 98, pp. 653-669.

Week 9: November 29th

Ethnographic and Related Qualitative Research and Writing

Required:

- a) S.A. Tyler. 1985. "Ethnography, Intertextuality, and the End of Description," American Journal of Semiotics, Volume 3, pp.83-98.
- b) Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln. 1994. "Introduction: Entering the Field of Qualitative Research," in Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln (eds.), Handbook of Qualitative Research. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, pp. 1-17.
- c) Paul Atkinson and Marytn Hammersley. 1994. "Ethnography and Participant Observation," in Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln (eds.), Handbook of Qualitative Research. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, pp. 248-261.
- c) Norman K. Denzin. 1994. "The Art and Politics of Interpretation," in Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln (eds.), Handbook of Qualitative Research. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, pp. 500-515.

Recommended:

- a) Gretchen B. Rossman & Sharon F. Rallis. 1998. Learning in the Field: An Introduction to Qualitative Research. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications, pp. 1-22, 58-90.
- b) Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln. 1998. "The Art of Interpretation, Evaluation, and Presentation," in Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln (eds.), Collecting and Interpreting Qualitative Materials. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, pp. 275-281.
- c) George E. Marcus. 1995. "The Emergence of Multi-Sited Ethnography," in Annual Review of Anthropology, Vol. 24, pg. 95-117.
- d) Lorraine Bayard de Volo and and Edward Schatz. 2004. "From the Inside Out: Ethnographic Methods in Political Research." PS (April), pp. 267-271.
- e) Multi-Author Symposium. 2004. "Discourse and Content Analysis." Qualitative Methods, Spring, pp. 15-38.
- f) Clare Ginger. 2006. "Interpretive Content Analysis: Stories and Arguments in Analytical Documents." In Interpretation and Method. Dvora Yanow and Peregrine Schwartz-Shea, editors. M.E. Sharpe. Pp. 331-348.
- g) Multi-Author Symposium. 2002. "Interview Methods in Political Science." PS, pp. 663-688.
- h) Shannon Orr. 2005. "New Technology and Research: An Analysis of Internet Survey Methodology in Political Science." PS, pp. 263-267.
- i) Soss, Joe. 2006. "Talking Our Way to Meaningful Explanations: A Practice-Centered View of Interviewing for Interpretive Research." In Interpretation and Method. Dvora Yanow and Peregrine Schwartz-Shea (editors). M.E. Sharpe, pp. 127-149.
- j) Gareth Enticott, George Boyne, and Richard Walker. 2008. "The Use of Multiple Informants in Public Administration Research: Data Aggregation and Using Organizational Echelons." Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory 19: 229-253.

Week 10: December 6th
Mixed Methods and Triangulation

Required:

- a) Todd Jick. 1979. "Mixing Qualitative and Quantitative Methods: Triangulation in Action," Administrative Science Quarterly 24:4 (December), pp. 602-611.
- b) Melvin Mark et al. 1997. "Integrating Qualitative Methods in a Predominantly Quantitative Evaluation: A Case Study and Some Reflections," New Directions for Evaluation, 74 (Summer), pp. 47-59.
- c) Jennifer Greene and Valerie J. Caracelli. 1997. "Defining and Describing the Paradigm Issue in Mixed Method Evaluation," New Directions for Evaluation, 74 (Summer), pp. 5-15.
- d) Lois-ellin Datta. 1997. "A Pragmatic Basis for Mixed-Method Designs," New Directions for Evaluation, 74 (Summer), pp. 33-45.
- e) Ann Chih Lin. 1998. "Bridging Positivist And Interpretivist Approaches to Qualitative Methods." Policy Studies Journal, 26: 1, pp. 162-180.

Recommended:

- a) Sidney Tarrow. 1995. "Bridging the Quantitative-Qualitative Divide in Political Science." American Political Science Review, 89: 2 (June), pp. 471-474.
- b) Valerie J. Caracelli and Jennifer Greene. 1997. "Crafting Mixed-Method Evaluation Designs," New Directions for Evaluation, 74 (Summer), pp. 19-32.
- c) James Mahoney. 1999. "Nominal, Ordinal, and Narrative Appraisal in Macro-Causal Analysis." American Journal of Sociology, 104: 4 (January), pp. 1154-1196.