

Outline of the Course

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Section I: The Scientific Study of Politics and What is Research?				
1 (T)	September 4	Course Intro		
1 (F)	September 7	Book overview, Objectivity/Values	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapters 1 and 3	
2 (T)	September 11	Asking Research Questions	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapter 4 2. <i>Empirical Research and Writing</i> , Chapter 1, pages 1- 19	
2 (F)	September 14	Measurement and Theory	1. “The Building Blocks of Social Scientific Research” from <i>Political Science Research Methods</i> (Moodle) PDF pgs. 1- top of 11 2. <i>Empirical Research and Writing</i> , Chapter 2, pages 21 – 53	
3 (T)	September 18	Measurement and Theory Contd.	Review reading from last class	Preliminary Research Question Due
3 (F)	September 21	Literature Reviews	1. <i>Empirical Research and Writing</i> , Chapter 3, pages 55 – 80 2. “Beginning the Research Process” pages 6 – 15 only, from <i>Political Science Research Methods</i> (Moodle) 3. Optional: “Making Sense of Scholarly Answers to your Research Question: Writing the Literature Review” from	

			<i>Writing a Research Paper in Political Science</i> (Moodle)	
Section II: Methods of Political Science Research				
4 (T)	September 25	Experimental Research	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapter 8	
4 (F)	September 28	Experimental Research	1. Bauer, Nichole. 2017. "The Effects of Counterstereotypic Gender Strategies on Candidate Evaluations". <i>Political Psychology</i> Vol. 38 (2): 279-295. 2. Bhavnani, Rikhil R. 2009. "Do Electoral Quotas Work After They Are Withdrawn: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in India." <i>American Political Science Review</i> 103(1): 23-35.	
5 (T)	October 2	LIT. REVIEW LIBRARY SESSION: CLASS MEETS IN LIBRARY		Bring research question to class
5 (F)	October 5	Comparative Research/Case Studies	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapter 9	Methods Approach Paper #1 (Experiments) Due
6 (T)	October 9	Comparative Research/Case Studies	1. Brady, Henry. 2010. "Data-Set Observations versus Causal-Process Observations: The 2000 U.S. Presidential Election" in <i>Rethinking Social Inquiry</i> eds. Henry Brady and David Collier. Rowman and Littlefield Publishers. (Moodle) 2. McCauley, John. 2013. "Economic Development Strategies and Communal Violence in Africa: The cases of Cote	

			d'Ivoire and Ghana.” <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> 46 (2): 182-211. (Moodle)	
6 (F)	October 12	Surveys	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Political Research</i>, Chapter 11 2. “Fake polls are a real problem” https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/fake-polls-are-a-real-problem/?ex_cid=story-twitter 	
7 (T)	October 16	Surveys	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Harrison, Brian F. and Melissa R. Michelson. 2015. “God and Marriage: The Impact of Religious Identity Priming on Attitudes Toward Same-Sex Marriage.” <i>Social Science Quarterly</i> 96(5): 1411-1423. 2. Prior, Markus. 2005. “News vs. Entertainment: How Increasing Media Choice Widens Gaps in Political Knowledge and Turnout.” <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> 49(3): 557-592. 	Methods Approach Paper #2 (Comparative) Due
7 (F)	October 19	Interviews and Focus Groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Political Research</i>, Chapter 12 	
8 (T)	October 23	NO CLASS: FALL PAUSE		
8 (F)	October 26	NO CLASS: LITERATURE REVIEW DUE		
9 (T)	October 30	Interviews and Focus Groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kingdon, John W. "Introduction" and "Appendix B" from <u>Congressmen's Voting Decisions</u>, 3rd edition. pages 3-25 and 307-310 (Moodle). 	

			2. Walsh, Katherine Cramer. 2012. "Putting Inequality in Its Place: Rural Consciousness and the Power of Perspective." <i>American Political Science Review</i> 106(3): 517-532.	
9 (F)	November 2	Content Analysis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Political Research</i>, Chapter 14 2. Edy, Jill A. and Patrick C. Meirick. 2007. "Wanted, Dead or Alive: Media Frames, Frame Adoption, and Support for the War in Afghanistan." <i>Journal of Communication</i> 57: 119-141. 3. Marchetti, Kathleen and David O'Connell. 2018. "Catholic Politicians and the Politics of Abortion Position Taking." <i>Politics and Religion</i> 11: 281-308. 	Methods Approach Paper #3 (Surveys or Interviews/Focus Groups) Due
Section III: Quantitative Study of Politics				
10 (T)	November 6	Descriptive Statistics (types of variables, measurements of central tendency)	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapter 15, pages 362-top of 379	
10 (F)	November 9	LAB DAY; NO READING – CLASS IN DENNY 112		Methods Approach Paper #4 (Content Analysis) Due
11 (T)	November 13	Probability and Statistical Inference	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapter 15, Bottom of 379- end of chapter	

11 (F)	November 16	Probability and Statistical Inference	1. "Probability and Statistical Inference" from <i>The Fundamentals of Political Science Research</i> (Moodle)	
12 (T)	November 20	NO CLASS		
12 (F)	November 23	NO CLASS: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!		
13 (T)	November 27	LAB DAY; Review readings/notes from Probability and Statistical Inference – CLASS IN DENNY 112		
13 (F)	November 30	Bivariate Analysis (p-values)	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapter 16, pages 391-top of 395	
14 (T)	December 4	Bivariate Analysis (chi-squared, difference of means, correlation)	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapter 16, pages 407 – end of chapter	Problem Set #1 Due
14 (F)	December 7	LAB DAY; NO READING – CLASS IN DENNY 112		
15 (T)	December 11	Introduction to Bivariate Regression	1. <i>Political Research</i> , Chapter 15 pages 395-406	
15 (F)	December 14	Catch Up or Final Paper Meetings		Problem Set #2 Due
Friday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m. – Final Papers Due				