

POLS6500: Qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection and analysis

Credit Weighting:

Pre-/Co-Requisites:

Restrictions:

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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GENERAL DETAILS

This course aims to prepare students for conducting empirical research. It reviews qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection and analysis. Students will engage theoretical material on the subject and train data analysis skills in practice.

The course will begin with an introduction to methods of data collection, in particular interview techniques, observation techniques, and unobtrusive techniques. The course will then move to the practice of political science research. The second section will train students in the conduct of qualitative research, after which the third section will focus on quantitative methods of data analysis.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

1. Be able to critique and conduct a study using process tracing
2. Be able to read and critique statistical research from a causal identification point of view
3. Be able to conduct and interpret basic experimental research using R
4. Be able to read a regression table

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

TBD

REQUIRED READING

There is no required hard-copy textbook for the course. Readings for each week are either freely accessible online or will be available on courselink.