Political Science 204A, Winter 2015

Research Design

Meetings:	Wednesday, 9:00-11:50am; Social Sciences Building Room 104
Instructor:	Karen Ferree keferree@ucsd.edu
Office Hours:	TBA, SSB 391

The primary text for this course is Trochim, William and James P. Donnelly. 2007. *The Research Methods Knowledge Base, 3rd Edition.* Cincinnati, OH, Atomic Dog Publishing.

Also recommended (purchase or borrow):

- Dunning, Thad. 2012. *Natural Experiments in the Social Sciences.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- John Gerring. 2007. *Case Study Research: Principles and Practices.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (This is available on-line through the library).

Most other readings are available on line. More obscure selections are available through me (plan ahead!).

You are expected to read all assigned materials and to be prepared to discuss them at the class meeting for which they are assigned. Most weeks have lecture and discussion sections, but a few have only one or the other. There are three assignments for the course, due as noted on the syllabus below. ***Late assignments will not be accepted.*** The first assignment will be worth 20% of your total grade, the third and fourth will both be worth 30%, and the remaining 20% will be based on your participation in classroom discussions.

Laptops will not be allowed during lectures.

Week 1 (January 7): The Scientific Method. (Lecture only).

Lecture reading:

1. Trochim and Donnelly, Chapter 1
2. Curd, Martin and J. A. Cover. 1998. *Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues*. New York: W. W. Norton. Chapters by Ruse, pp.38-47, Hempel and Snyder, pp.445-480.
3. King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Chapter 1.
4. Friedman, Milton, 1953. The Methodology of Positive Economics, in Essays in Positive Economics by Milton Friedman.
5. Weingast, Barry. 1979. A Rational Choice Perspective on Congressional Norms. *American Journal of Political Science* 23: 245-62.

Week 2 (January 14): Observation, Measurement, and Construct Validity

Lecture Readings:

1. Trochim and Donnelly, Chapter 3 (skip 3-1d through 3-1g).

2. King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Chapter 5, section 5.1 on measurement error.
3. Cook, Thomas D. and Donald T. Campbell. 1979. *Quasi-Experimentation: Design and Analysis Issues for Field Settings*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. Pages 59-70.

Discussion Readings: (focus on measurement strategies)

1. Fenno, Richard. US House Members in Their Constituencies: An Exploration. Reprinted in Weisberg at. al.
2. Gastil, Raymond. 1986. Freedom in the World: Political Rights and Civil Liberties, 1985-1986. New York: Greenwood Press. Pp. 3-30.
3. James H. Fowler and Sangick Jeon, 2008, "The Authority of Supreme Court Precedent," *Social Networks* 30: 16–30.
4. Cottler, Linda B., Shaun Ajinkya, Bruce A. Goldberger, Mohammad Asrar Ghani, David M Martin, Hui Hu, Mark S. Gold. 2014. "Prevalence of drug and alcohol use in urban Afghanistan: epidemiological data from the Afghanistan National Urban Drug Use Study (ANUDUS)." *Lancet Global Health 2014*; 2: e592-600.
5. King, Gary, Jennifer Pan, and Margaret E. Roberts. 2013. How Censorship in China Allows Government Criticism but Silences Collective Expression. *American Political Science Review* 107(2): 1-18.

Assignment 1: Assess the validity and reliability of the IRIS dataset on quality of governance (ICRG), to be provided. Due January 21.

Week 3 (January 21): Sampling and External Validity (Lecture Only)

Lecture Readings:

1. Fowler, Floyd J. 2009. *Survey Research Methods*, 4th Edition. Thousand Oaks: Sage. Chapters 1-3.
2. Trochim. Chapter 2.
3. Scacco, Alex. 2013. "Who Riots? Evidence from Kaduna and Jos." From *Anatomy of a Riot*, Ch. 3. Unpublished manuscript.
4. Beber, Bernd, Philip Roessler, and Alexandra Scacco. 2013. "Intergroup Violence and Political Attitudes: Evidence from a Dividing Sudan." Unpublished manuscript.

Week 4 (January 28): Causal Inference; Introduction to Experiments (Lecture Only)

Lecture Readings:

1. Trochim. Chapter 7 (skip 161-171); Chapter 9; Chapter 12, pp. 253-260.
2. Gertler, Paul et al. 2011. *Impact Evaluation in Practice*. Chapter 3. Washington, DC: World Bank.
3. Cook, Thomas D. and Donald T. Campbell. 1979. *Quasi-Experimentation: Design and Analysis Issues for Field Settings*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. Ch.s 1 and 2, pp. 37-50.
4. Herron, Erik S. 2010. "The Effect of Passive Observation Methods on Azerbaijan's 2008 Presidential Election and 2009 Referendum." *Electoral Studies* 29(3): 417–24.

Week 5 (February 4): Randomized Controlled Trials

Lecture Readings:

1. Gertler, Paul et al. 2011. *Impact Evaluation in Practice*. Chapter 4. Washington, DC: World Bank.
2. Duflo, Esther Rachel Glennerster and Michael Kremer. 2008. "Using Randomization in Development Economics Research: A Toolkit." Chapter 61 in *Handbook of Development Economics,* Vol. 4.
3. Humphreys, Macartan, and Jeremy M. Weinstein. 2009. "Field Experiments and the Political Economy of Development." *Annual Review of Political Science* 12:367-78.

Discussion Readings:

1. LaCour, Michael J. and Donald P. Green. 2014. "When contact changes minds: An experiment on transmission of support for gay equality." *Science* 346(6215): 1366-1369.
2. Dammert, Ana C, Jose C Galdo, and Virgilio Galdo. 2014. "Preventing Dengue Through Mobile Phones: Evidence From a Field Experiment in Peru." *Journal of health economics* 35: 147–61.
3. Olken, Ben. 2007. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy*. 115(2): 200-250.

Week 6 (February 11): Survey Experiments

Lecture Readings

1. Gaines, Brian J., James H. Kuklinski, and Paul J. Quirk. 2007. "The Logic of the Survey Experiment Reexamined." *Political Analysis*, Vol. 15, No. 1 (Winter): 1-20(20).
2. Barabas, Jason, and Jennifer Jerit. 2010. "Are Survey Experiments Externally Valid?" *American Political Science Review* 104(2): 226-42.

Discussion Readings

1. Hainmueller, Jens and Michael Hiscox. 2010. "Attitudes Towards Highly Skilled and Low Skilled Immigration: Evidence from a Survey Experiment." *American Political Science Review* (2010).
2. Frye, Timothy. 2006. "Original Sin, Good Works, and Property Rights in Russia." *World Politics* 58(4): 479-504.
3. Gonzalez-Ocantos, Ezequiel et al. 2012. "Vote Buying and Social Desirability Bias: Experimental Evidence from Nicaragua." *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 56, No. 1: 202–217.

Assignment 2: Design an experiment; Discuss sampling strategies and power considerations. Due February 18.

Week 7 (February 18): Natural Experiments

Lecture Readings

1. Dunning, Thad. Natural Experiments in the Social Sciences. Chapters 1-5 and 8.
2. Trochim. Chapter 10, pp. 215-222.
3. Gertler, Paul et al. 2011. *Impact Evaluation in Practice*. Chapter 5. Washington, DC: World Bank.

Discussion Readings

1. Duflo, Esther and Raghabendra Chattopadhyay. 2004. "Women as Policy Makers: Evidence from a Randomized Policy Experiment in India." *Econometrica* 72(5): 1409-1443.
2. Blattman, Christopher. 2009. "From Violence to Voting: War and Political Participation in Uganda." *American Political Science Review* 103(2): 231-247.
3. Lemieux, Thomas and Kevin Milligan. 2008. "Incentive Effects of Social Assistance: A Regression Discontinuity Approach." *Journal of Econometrics* 142: 807–828.
4. Miguel, Edward, Shankar Satyanath, and Ernest Sergenti. "Economic Shocks and Civil Conflict: An Instrumental Variables Approach." *Journal of Political Economy*, 2004, 112(4): 725-753.

Week 8 (February 25): Quasi Experiments

Lecture Readings:

1. Trochim. Chapter 7 161-171, Chapter 10 (except 215-222).
2. Cook and Campbell. Chapters 3 (skip RDD), 5.
3. Gertler, Paul et al. 2011. *Impact Evaluation in Practice*. Chapters 6 and 7. Washington, DC: World Bank.

Discussion Readings:

1. Donald T. Campbell et al., "Connecticut Crackdown on Speeding," *Law and Society Review*, 1968.
2. Jalan, Jyotsna and Martin Ravallion. "Does Piped Water Reduce Diarrhea for Children in Rural India?" *Journal of Econometrics* 112 (2003) 153 – 173.
3. Bellows, John and Edward Miguel. 2009. "War and local collective action in Sierra Leone." *Journal of Public Economics* 93: 1144-1157.
4. Futch, Michael Douglas, and Craig Thomas McIntosh. 2009. "Tracking the Introduction of the Village Phone Product in Rwanda." *Information Technologies & International Development* 5(3): 54–81.

Week 9 (March 4): Case Selection in Small n Designs

Lecture Readings

1. Gerring, John. 2007. *Case Study Research: Principles and Practices.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-2, 5.
2. King, Keohane, and Verba, Chapters 4 and 6.

Discussion Readings:

1. Lieberman, Evan S. 2003. *Race and Regionalism in the Politics of Taxation in Brazil and South Africa.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1 and 4.
2. Haggard, Stephan, and Robert R. Kaufman. 2012. "Inequality and Regime Change: Democratic Transitions and the Stability of Democratic Rule." *American Political Science Review* 106(3): 495-516.
3. Posner, Daniel N. 2004. The Political Salience of Cultural Difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas Are Allies in Zambia and Adversaries in Malawi. *American Political Science Review* 98, 4 (November): 529-545.

Week 10 (March 11): Mixed Methods Designs

Lecture:

1. Henry E. Brady and David Collier, editors, 2004. *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards.* Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield. Chapters 1-3.
2. Dunning, Chapter 7.
3. Gerring, John. 2007. *Case Study Research: Principles and Practices.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 3 and 7.
4. Rao, Vijayendra and Michael Woolcock. "Integrating Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches in Program Evaluation."
5. Freedman, David. 1991. "Statistical Models and Shoe Leather." *Sociological Methodology*, Vol. 21: 291-313.

Discussion:

1. Jamison, Julian, Dean Karlan, and Pia Raffler. "Mixed Method Evaluation of a Passive Mhealth Sexual Information Texting Service in Uganda." *Working Paper*: 36.
2. Any other papers we did not get to earlier in quarter, or you want to talk about.

Assignment 3: Design a mixed methods project that involves a large n natural or quasi experiment and one or more case studies. Due March 18.