

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JAPAN  
Graduate School of International Relations

Academic Year: 2013/2014

Term: Spring

Course	Course code DCC5230	Course title Research Methodology	
Name of Instructor	Kyohei Yamada		Credit Number: 2
Instructor's contact Information	Office# 330	Office Hours TBA	E-mail: kyamada@iuj.ac.jp
Class Schedule Day / Time	TBA		

Course Description:

This course introduces basic ideas and methods related to social scientific research.

Learning Objectives:

The primary objective of this course is to familiarize students with practical methods and tools useful for conducting independent research projects. After reviewing basic ideas of social scientific research, we focus on the following four methods and tools: (1) survey, (2) field experiment, (3) case study, and (4) data management with Stata. For each of these methods, we learn the methodology and study its practical applications.

Career Relevance:

The course is useful for critically evaluating social scientific works and conducting independent research projects. Students can apply the tools and approaches they learn in the course to their future academic and non-academic careers.

Course Context or Rationalization:

I expect students to be able to critically evaluate scholarly works (being good consumers) as well as design and implement research projects (being good producers). The methods and tools acquired in the course should help students complete their master's theses.

Delivery Methods:

The course will be based primarily on lectures. However, students are expected to come to class, having finished the week's required reading materials, and prepared to answer questions and engage in the discussions.

Assessment:

1. Attendance and participation 10%
2. Three short quizzes: 10%
3. Group project 1: 10% (Survey)

4. Group project 2: 10% (Survey experiment)
5. Individual assignment 1: 15% --- Randomization exercise
6. Individual Assignment 2: 15% (Data management exercise)
7. Final Project or Final Exam: 30%

Prerequisite:

n/a

Textbook(s)

Required:

Gerber, A.S., and D.P. Green. 2012. *Field Experiments: Design, Analysis, and Interpretation*. New York: W.W. Norton.

Reference books/Journal Articles:

Angrist, Joshua D. and Jörn-Steffen Pischke (2008). *Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Dunning, Thad. 2012. *Natural Experiments in the Social Sciences: A Design-Based Approach*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Duflo, E., R. Glennerster, and M. Kremer. 2007. "Using Randomization in Development Economics Research: A Toolkit." *Handbook of development economics* 4 (2007): 3895-962.

Gaines, Brian J., James H. Kuklinski, and Paul J. Quirk. 2007. "The Logic of the Survey Experiment Reexamined." *Political Analysis*: 15(1): 1-20

Gerber, A.S., and D. P. Green. 2000. "The Effects of Canvassing, Telephone Calls, and Direct Mail on Voter Turnout: A Field Experiment." *American Political Science Review* 94 (3): 653-63.

Gerring, John. 2007. *Case Study Research: Principles and Practices*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press Cambridge.

Green, D.P., A.S. Gerber, and D.W. Nickerson. 2003. "Getting out the Vote in Local Elections: Results from Six Door - to - Door Canvassing Experiments." *Journal of Politics* 65 (4): 1083-96.

Groves, Robert M. 2009. *Survey Methodology*. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons.

Hainmueller, Jens, and Michael J. Hiscox. 2010. "Attitudes toward Highly Skilled and Low-Skilled Immigration: Evidence from a Survey Experiment." *American Political Science Review* 104(1): 61-84.

Kalyvas, Stathis N. (2000). "Commitment Problems in Emerging Democracies: The Case of Religious Parties." *Comparative Politics* 32(4): 379-398.

King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Miguel, Edward. 2004. "Tribe or Nation?" *World Politics* 56: 327-362.

Olken, Benjamin A. 2007. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy* 115 (2): 200-249

	Slemrod, Joel Blumenthal, Marsha, and Charles Christian. 2001. Taxpayer Response to an Increased Probability of Audit: Evidence from a Controlled Experiment in Minnesota. <i>Journal of Public Economics</i> 79:455-483.
Class Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction</li> <li>2. Social Scientific Reasoning (1)</li> <li>3. Social Scientific Reasoning (2)</li> <li>4. Causes and Effects</li> <li>5. Survey (1)</li> <li>6. Survey (2)</li> <li>7. Survey (3)</li> <li>8. Survey (4)</li> <li>9. Field Experiment (1)</li> <li>10. Field Experiment (2)</li> <li>11. Field Experiment (3)</li> <li>12. Natural Experiment</li> <li>13. Group Presentation (1)</li> <li>14. Group Presentation (2)</li> <li>15. Case Study (1)</li> <li>16. Case Study (2)</li> <li>17. Data Management (1)</li> <li>18. Data Management (2)</li> <li>19. Data Management (3)</li> <li>20. Conclusion</li> </ol>
Others (if any)	