**Comparative Methodology**

Autumn, 2016

Graduate School of International Studies

Seoul National University

Instructor: Dr. Jiweon Jun

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**\* Aim of This Course**

The principle aims of ‘Comparative Methodology’ are to

● understand basic concepts and skills involved in comparative research including research design and data analysis (in particular, methods in applied social statistics) in social science

● be able to use STATA, a statistical software, for data management and statistical analysis

● enhance research capacity and confidence by providing an opportunity to conduct a small research project throughout the course, and hopefully produce a good quality paper to be able to be submitted to a journal/conference (e.g., IATUR 2017 in Spain)

**\* Grading**

Mid-term STATA exam: 30%

Presentation: 30%

Final paper: 30%

Attendance: 10% (students with more than two absences without justifiable causes will fail the course.)

\* **Final Project**

A quantitative and comparative research based on the analysis of Multinational Time Use Study (MTUS) data

**\* Classroom**

Building 140-1, Room 201

**\* Date and Time**

  Monday 2:30-5:30pm

**\* Reference**

Agresti and Finlay 1997. *Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences*, Prentice-Hall. (later versions are fine)

Hamilton, Lawrence C. 2012. *Statistics with STATA*. Cengage Learning.

Dougherty, Christopher. 2011. *Introduction to Econometrics*. Oxford University Press.

King, Keohane and Verba, 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton University Press.

Ragin, Charles C. 2011. *Constructing Social Research*. Thousand Oaks: Pine Forge Press.

**Course Schedule:**

**Week 1 (9/5) Introduction: Designing Social Inquiry**

Chapter1, King, Keohane and Verba, 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton University Press.

**Week 2 (9/12) Comparative Research Design**

Mahony and Rueschemeyer, 2003. Comparative *Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*. Cambridge University Press

Chapter1, King, Keohane and Verba, 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton University Press.

**Week 3 (9/19) Introduction to STATA**

Running and using STATA, including file management, data input, recoding and transforming data. Introduction to MTUS

**Week 4 (9/26) Applied Social Statistics using STATA – Descriptive Analysis**

Ch3, Agresti, A. and B. Finlay. *Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences*, Prentice-Hall.

Descriptive Analysis using STATA. Graphical exploration and presentation of data including histograms, scatter plots, pie charts and other methods.

**Week 5 (10/3) No Class- Public Holiday**

**Week 6 (10/10) Applied Social Statistics using STATA – Inference: Hypothesis Testing**

Ch4, Ch6, Agresti, A. and B. Finlay. *Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences*, Prentice-Hall.

(Do not need to read sections with \* in the text. The class will focus on lecture & use of STATA. Readings are for your own reference)

**Week 7 (10/17) Applied Social Statistics using STATA– Introduction to Regression Analysis**

Ch9, Ch11 Agresti, A. and B. Finlay. *Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences*, Prentice-Hall.

Note that the class will focus on the use of STATA – theoretical issues regarding the regression analysis will be discussed later in the course.

**Week 8 (10/24) Applied Social Statistics using STATA– Introduction to Regression Analysis (continued) + How to Conduct a Small Research Project**

Ch9, Ch11 Agresti, A. and B. Finlay. *Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences*, Prentice-Hall.

Note that the class will focus on the use of STATA – theoretical issues regarding the regression analysis will be discussed later in the course.

**Week 9 (10/31) Mid-Term Exam: STATA**

**Week 10 (11/7) Research Design: Quantitative and Comparative Research**

Ragin. Ch. 7. Using Quantitative Methods to Study Covariation. Pp. 131-153.

Ch. 6. Using Comparative Methods to Study Diversity. Pp. 105-130.

\*Ono, Hiroshi. 2007. “Careers in Foreign-Owned Firms in Japan” *American Sociological Review* 72(2): 267-290.

Beckfield, Jason. 2006. “European Integration and Income Inequality” *American Sociological*

*Review* 71(6): 964-985.

**Week 11 (11/14) Research Design: Qualitative and Comparative Research**

Ragin**.** Ch. 5. Using Qualitative Methods to Study Commonalities. Pp. 81-103.

Ch. 6. Using Comparative Methods to Study Diversity. Pp. 105-130.

\*Otis, Eileen. 2008. “Beyond the Industrial Paradigm: Market-Embedded Labor and the Gender

Organization of Global Service Work in China” *American Sociological Review* 73(1):

15-36.

**Week 12 (11/21) Issues in Comparative Research: Determining What to Observe**

Selection Bias, Intentional Selection Observations, Causal Inferences

Ch3, Ch4. King, Keohane and Verba, 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton University Press.

**Week 13 (11/28) Issues in Comparative Research + Consultation Session**

Measurement Error, Excluding Relevant Variables:bias, Including Irrelevant variables: Inefficiency

Ch5. King, Keohane and Verba, 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton University Press.

**Week 14 (12/5) Final Research Paper Presentation**

**Week 15 (12/12) Final Research Paper Presentation**