Comparative Methodology

Spring, 2017

Graduate School of International Studies

Seoul National University

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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 social science (in particular, methods in applied social statistics).
- be able to use STATA, a statistical software, for data management and statistical analysis, and to understand the basic procedure of conducting empirical research using harmonized international data (MTUS).

The course assumes no prior background in applied social statistics/comparative methodology.

- **R**equirements
  - Class participation & Homework (40%): students are expected to read the assigned chapters and articles for each class and to come prepared to discuss them.
  - Mid-term exam (30%)
  - Stata Exam (30%)

Attendance: Students with more than two absences without justifiable causes/prior notice will fail the course

*** Classroom**

Building 140-1, Room 201

*** Date and Time**

Tuesday, 10:00AM~1:00PM

*** Reference**

Agresti, A. and Franklin, C. (2013). *Statistics: The Art and Science of Learning from Data.* Pearson.

Hamilton, C. (2012). *Statistics with STATA*. Cengage Learning.

Dougherty, C. (2011). *Introduction to Econometrics*. Oxford University Press.

King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, Sidney Verba. 1994. Designing Social Inquiry. Princeton Univ. Press

Little, Daniel. 1991. Varieties of Social Explanation. Westview Press, pp.13-38

Course Schedule:

Week 1 (3/7) Introduction: Two Types of Research

King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, Sidney Verba. 1994. Designing Social Inquiry. Princeton Univ. Press. pp.3-27

Week 2 (3/14) Models of Explanation: Causal Analysis

Little, Daniel. 1991. Varieties of Social Explanation. Westview Press, pp.13-38

Week 3 (3/21) Models of Explanation: Rational Choice Theory

Little, Daniel. 1991. Varieties of Social Explanation. Westview Press, pp.39-67

Week 4 (3/28) Models of Explanation: Statistical Analysis

Little, Daniel. 1991. Varieties of Social Explanation. Westview Press, pp.159-182

Week 5 (4/4) Concept & Measurement

Pollock III, pp.6-47

Scaff, Lawrence A. 1975. "Two Concepts of Political Participation," Western Political Quarterly, 28(3):447-462.

Week 6 (4/11) Explanation and Research Design

Pollock III, pp.48-57, 78-97

Bowler, Shaun and Todd Donovan. 2007. "Reasoning about Institutional Change: Winners,

Losers, and Support for Electoral Reform," British Journal of Political Science 37(3):455-476.

Week 7 (4/18) Midterm Exam

Week 8 (4/25) Introduction to STATA

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

Week 9 (5/2) Applied Social Statistics using STATA – Descriptive Analysis

Agresti and Franklin, 2013. Statistics: the Art and Science of Learning from Data, Pearson

Ch 2, Exploring Data with Graphs and Numerical Summaries, pp.23-pp.80

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

Week 10 (5/9) Applied Social Statistics using STATA – Inference: Hypothesis Testing

Agresti and Franklin, *Statistics: the Art and Science of Learning from Data*, Pearson

Ch 8 Statistical Inference: Confidence Intervals pp.348-392

Ch 9 Statistical Inference: Significance Tests about Hypotheses pp.400-453

Very brief discussion on the probability distributions/Sampling distributions & Making statistical Inference (Confidence intervals and Significance tests about hypotheses) using STATA. (These Readings are for your own reference, not mandatory requirements. But course hand-outs are very important.)

Week 11 (5/16) Applied Social Statistics using STATA – Inference: Hypothesis Testing (Continued) + Association

Agresti and Franklin, *Statistics: the Art and Science of Learning from Data*, Pearson

Ch 9 Statistical Inference: Significance Tests about Hypotheses pp.400-453

Ch3 Association: Contingency, Correlation, and Regression, pp.89-141

Very brief discussion on the probability distributions/Sampling distributions & Making statistical Inference (Confidence intervals and Significance tests about hypotheses) using STATA. (These Readings are for your own reference, not mandatory requirements. But course hand-outs are very important.)

Week 12 (5/23) Applied Social Statistics using STATA – Introduction to Regression Analysis

Agresti and Franklin, 2013. *Statistics: the Art and Science of Learning from Data* 3rd edition, Pearson. (These Readings are for your own reference, not mandatory requirements. But course hand-outs are very important.)

Ch12 Analyzing the Association Between Quantitative Variables: Regression Analysis, pp.576-622

Week 13 (5/30) Applied Social Statistics using STATA– Introduction to Regression Analysis (continued)

Agresti and Franklin, 2013. *Statistics: the Art and Science of Learning from Data* 3rd edition, Pearson. (These Readings are for your own reference, not mandatory requirements. But course hand-outs are very important.)

Ch12 Analyzing the Association Between Quantitative Variables: Regression Analysis, pp.576-622

Ch13 Multiple Regression, pp.629-673

Week 14 (6/6) Memorial Day (No Class)

Week 15 (6/13) Final Exam (STATA)