**Comparative Methodology**

Spring, 2021

Graduate School of International Studies

Seoul National University

Instructor: Prof. Ki-Soo Eun

TA:

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**\* Aim of This Course**

  This course deals with research methodology emphasizing comparison in social scientific research. I do not intend to train students on (advanced) quantitative data analysis skills, but to promote their capacity to do their own social scientific research throughout this course. I also wish that they could be nurtured the ability of critical thinking that is one of the most important traits in scholarly works.

**\* Grading**

Mid-term exam 25%; Final exam 25%; Projects 40%; Attendance 10%;

Presentation-Extra credit

\*\* This grading system is subject to change by variations of students’ performance of exams. The instructor decides the final grading system after reviewing the performance of exams and projects at the end of semester.

**\* Classroom**

Building 140, Room 103

**\* Date and Time**

Monday, 1:30 – 4:20 am.

**\* Attendance**

Attendance is required. If you do not appear more than twice, you cannot expect a grade appropriate for a graduate student.

**\* Course Packet**

**-** Will be ready soon.

- Purchase it at Room 620, Building 140-1.

**\* Reference**

1. King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton University Press.

2. George, Alexander L., and Andrew Bennett. 2004. *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences*. MIT Press.

3. Schutt, Russell K. 2006. *Investigating the Social World*. *The Process and Practice of Research.* 5th Edition. New York: Pine Forge Press. (361.1072 Sch88i) Central Library and Library of GSIS.

4. Ragin, Charles, and Lisa Amoroso. 2011. *Constructing Social Research*. Sage.

**\* Presenters are required to upload their presentation files to eTL one day before the class each week.**

**\*** Presentation: 15-20 minutes

\*Check eTL pretty often.

**\*Course Schedule:**

**Week 1 (3/1) Introduction to the Course: Social Research**

\*\*\* *Preparation of* *Presentation on on Rindfuss and Morgan(1983)*

**Week 2 (3/8) Exploratory and Explanatory Research**

King et al. (1994) “Causality” Pp. 75-95

Rindfuss, Ronald and S. Philip Morgan. 1983. “Marriage, Sex and the First Birth

Interval: The Quiet Revolution in Asia” *Population and Development Review* 9(2): 259-278.

Presentation on King by Kaniz

Rindfuss and Morgan by Damla

\*\*\* *Preparation of* *Presentation Ragin’s Chs 1 and 2.*

**Week 3 (3/15) Social Scientific Research**

Ragin et al. (2011). Chs. 1-2.

Presentations on Ch 1 by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ch 2 by\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* *Preparation of* *Presentation on Ragin et al. (2011) and Beckfield(2006)*

**Week 4 (3/22) Quantitative Research 1: Causal Mechanism, Research Design, Purpose of the Research, Hypothesis; Difference between Rindfuss and Morgan (1993), and Beckfield**

Ragin et al. (2011). Ch.7 “Using Quantitative Methods to Study Covariation”

Schutt (2006). Ch.4. Conceptualization and Measurement. Pp.19-23, 91-128

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

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

Presentation on Ragin by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Beckfield by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* *Preparation of* *Presentation on Beckfield(2006)*

**Week 5 (3/29) Quiz**

**Week 6 (4/5) Quantitative Research 2: Data, Measurement Validity and Interpretations of Findings**

Ragin et al. (2011). Ch.7 “Using Quantitative Methods to Study Covariation”

Schutt (2006). Ch.4. Conceptualization and Measurement. Pp.19-23, 91-128.

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

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

Presentation on Schutt by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Beckfield by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* *Preparation of* *Presentation on Ono(2007)*

**Week 7 (4/12) Quantitative Research 3: Comparison, Research Design, Data, Selection Bias**

King et al. (1994). “Selection Bias” Pp. 128-138

Ragin et al. (2011). Ch.6 “Using Comparative Methods to Study Diversity”

Ono, Hiroshi. 2007. “Careers in Foreign-Owned Firms in Japan” *American*

*Sociological Review* 72(2): 267-290

Presentation on King by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ragin by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ono by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Project 1: Preparation of a preliminary proposal of a quantitative research

* Purpose of research, Significance of research, Reason why a quantitative research is designed, Hypothesis, Data.
* This project is required for all students
* Proposal as a ppt file
* Submit it by 5 pm, Friday, October 30.
* I will choose 4 students and ask presentations

**Week 8 (4/19) Mid-term Exam**

**Week 9 (4/26) Interpreting Quantitative Research 1**

* **Lecture by Eun**

**Week 10 (5/3) Practice of Quantitative Research: A Preliminary Proposal of Quantitative Research.**

**4 Presentations:**

\*\*\* *Preparation of* *Presentation on Otis(2008)*

**Week 11 (5/10) Qualitative Research: Commonalities, In-depth interview, Research design**

Ragin et al. (2011). Ch.5 “Using Qualitative Methods to Study Commonalities”

Otis, Eileen M. 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.

Presentation on Ragin by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Otis by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Project 2: Preparation of a preliminary proposal of a qualitative research

* Purpose of research, Significance of research, Reason why a qualitative research is designed, Qualitative research design, Way of collecting data.
* This project is required for all students.
* Proposal as a ppt file
* Submit it by 5 pm, Tuesday, November 17.
* I will choose 4 students and ask presentations

**Week 12 (5/17) Practice of Qualitative Research: A Preliminary Proposal of Qualitative Research.**

**4 Presentations:**

\*\* Project 3: Preparation of a preliminary proposal of a conversion of qualitative

research to quantitative research or quantitative research to qualitative research.

* Purpose of research, Significance of research, Reason why a qualitative research is designed, Qualitative research design, Way of collecting data.
* This project is required for all students.
* Choose any quantitative or qualitative research, and then try to convert it into a research of different method.
* You can use Beckfield’s or Ono’s or Otis’s research for your project.
* Proposal as a ppt file
* Submit it by 5 pm, Tuesday, November 24.
* I will choose 4 students and ask presentations

**Week 13 (5/24) Practice of Conversion between Quantitative and Qualitative Research**

**4 Presentations:**

\*\*\* *Preparation of* *Presentation on Kirk (2009)*

**Week 14 (5/31) Experiment**

Schutt. Ch. 7. “Experiment” Pp.200-215.

Kirk, David. 2009. “A Natural Experiment on Residential Change and Recidivism:

Lessons from Hurricane Katrina.” *American Sociological Review* 74(3): 484-505.

Presentation on Schutt by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Kirk by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 15 (6/7) Final Examination**