

Comparative Methodology

Fall, 2018

Graduate School of International Studies
Seoul National University

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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.

*** Group Project**

Group research proposal (15-20 pages, double space, font 12, by December 19)

Including 1) definition of major concepts 2) reference (consisting of as many articles as you can find)

+ Critical review of prior research by each student, respectively (at least 10 articles)

*** Grading**

Project 30%; Mid-term exam 30%; Final exam 30%; Attendance: 10%

*** Classroom**

Building 140, Room 103

*** Date and Time**

Wednesday, 9 am – 12 pm.

*** Attendance**

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

*** Reference**

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

*** You are required to upload your presentation files to eTL after the class each week.**

*Check eTL everyday.

***Course Schedule:**

Week 1 (9/5) Introduction to the Course: Social Research: Relation

- *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.
- *Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality" *American Sociological Review* 71(6): 964-985.

*Introduction to group project

Week 2 (9/12) Relation: Association, Causal relation, Mechanism

- *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.
- *Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality" *American Sociological Review* 71(6): 964-985.
- *Levitt, Steven D. and Stephen J. Dubner. 2005. *Freakonomics*. William Morrow. Ch. 4. Where Have All the Criminals Gone? Pp. 117-144.

*** *Presentations on Beckfield (2006), Rindfuss and Morgan (1983); Levitt and Dubner (2005)*

Week 3 (9/19) Quantitative, Comparative & Qualitative Methods; Exploratory and Explanatory Research

- *Ragin(2011).
Ch. 5. Using Qualitative Methods to Study Commonalities. Pp. 111-134.

Ch. 6. Using Comparative Methods to Study Diversity. Pp. 135-161.

Ch. 7. Using Quantitative Methods to Study Covariation. Pp. 163-187.

*Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality" *American Sociological Review* 71(6): 964-985.

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

*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.

*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.

*** *Presentations on Ono(2007) and Otis(2008)*

** Your class review #1 by September 26

Week 4 (9/26) Chusuk Holiday: NO Class

Week 5 (10/3) National Holiday: Data

*Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality" *American Sociological Review* 71(6): 964-985.

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

*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.

*** 3 *Presentations on data in a research selected by students* (Type of research, type of data, an example of the data, the way how the data is created, the way how to analyze the data...)

Week 6 (10/10) Conceptualization and Measurement: Validity and Reliability

*Schutt. Ch. 4. "Conceptualization and Measurement"

*Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality" *American Sociological Review* 71(6): 964-985.

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

*** *Presentation on conceptualization and measurement in Beckfield's research*

Week 7 (10/17) Method of Comparison

*Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality" *American Sociological Review* 71(6): 964-985.

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

*** *Presentation of method of comparison introduced in Ono(2007)*

** Your class review #2 by October 24

Week 8 (10/24) Mid-term Exam

Week 9 (10/31) Interpreting Quantitative Research 1

*Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality" *American Sociological Review* 71(6): 964-985.

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

Week 10 (11/7) Interpreting Quantitative Research 2

*Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality" *American Sociological Review* 71(6): 964-985.

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

Week 11 (11/14) Quiz 1; Experiment / Social Change

*Schutt. Ch. 7. "Experiment"

*Kirk, David. 2009. "A Natural Experiment on Residential Change and Recidivism: Lessons from Hurricane Katrina." *American Sociological Review* 74(3): 484-505.

*Cotter, David, Joan M. Hermsen and Reeve VAnneman. 2011. "The End of the Gender Revolution? Gender Role Attitudes from 1977 to 2008" *American Journal of Sociology* 117(1): 259-89.

*** *Quiz: Basic statistics; Interpretation of regression coefficients*

*** *Presentations on Kirk(2009) and Cotter et al.(2011)*

Week 12 (11/21) Group Consultation for Final Project

** Your class review #3 by November 28

Week 13 (11/28) Qualitative Research

*Ragin, Charles C. 1994. *Constructing Social Research*. Thousand Oaks: Pine Forge Press.

Ch. 4. Using Qualitative Methods to Study Commonalities. Pp. 81-103.

*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.

*** *Presentations on Otis(2008) again*

Week 14 (12/5) Presentation of Group Project

Week 15 (12/12) Final Examination