**Comparative Methodology**

Fall, 2013

Graduate School of International Studies

Seoul National University

Instructor: Prof. Ki-Soo Eun

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**\* Aim of This Course**

   This course discusses research methodology emphasizing comparison in social scientific research. Throughout this course, I do not intend to train students on (advanced) quantitative data analysis skills, but to promote their capacity to do social scientific research by themselves. In addition to theoretical learning, students are given the chance to practice social survey by following steps on literature review, hypothesis construction, questionnaire construction, face-to-face interview, and data analysis. I hope that students can have self-confidence to be able to do their own research after they complete this course successfully. In addition to this, I also wish that they could be nurtured the ability of critical thinking that is one of the most important traits in scholarly works.

**\* Requirement**

Students have the opportunity to analyze East Asian Social Survey data using SAS in fall semester. Introductory SAS class will be open in early September. Anyone who wants to learn the basic use of SAS is encouraged to take this class in the first week of fall semester. There is no formal SAS session during the semester except these classes.

Students need to install SAS software to their notebook before September 13. Otherwise, they need to look for PC where SAS is installed for homework and practice. SAS can be downloaded and installed from SNU portal. (SNU portal🡪 Quick Menu🡪 SW download 🡪SAS). Appropriate version of Window is required to install SAS in your notebook.

**\* Grading**

Individual Homework & Quiz 30%;

Mid-term examination 30%

Final project: 30%

Attendance: 10%

\* Two absences without any specific reason lead you to failure of this course.

**\* Classroom**

Building 140-1, Room 201

**\* Date and Time**

  Monday 1:30-4:00pm

**\* Reference**

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

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.

**Course Schedule:**

**Week 1 (9/2) Introduction to the Course: Quantitative, Qualitative and Comparative Research**

**Week 2 (9/9) Statistics 1**

**Week 3 (9/16) Statistics 2**

**Week 4 (9/23) Statistical Analysis Using SAS**

**Week 5 (9/30) Research Design 1: Quantitative Research**

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

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

**Week 6 (10/7) Research Design 2: Quantitative Research**

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

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

**Week 7 (10/14) Research Design 3: Quantitative Research**

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

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

**Week 8 (10/21) Research Design 4: 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.

**Week 9 (10/28) Research Design 5: 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 10 (11/4) Research Design 6: Exploratory and Explanatory Research**

\*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.

**Week 11 (11/11) Historical Comparison: John Stuart Mill’s Method**

**Week 12 (11/18) Mid-Term Examination**

**Week 13 (11/25) Presentation of Final Project 1**

**Week 14 (12/2) Presentation of Final Project 2**

**Week 15 (12/9) Presentation of Final Project 3**