**Comparative Methodology**

Fall, 2023

Graduate School of International Studies

Seoul National University

Instructor: Prof. Ki-Soo Eun (Bldg. 140-1, Room 611)

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Assistant: Yoonseol Kori Joo (hellokoriii@snu.ac.kr)

**\* 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.

This course focuses on 1) research design in quantitative, qualitative and comparative research, 2) preparation of research proposal, 3) reading and understanding tables and figures, and statistics from analysis of means and regression analysis.

All students are expected to be able to apply methodological knowledge attained from this course to their future independent research and/or thesis research.

**\* Grading**

Mid-term exam 20%; Final exam 30%; Homework 25%; Project 20%; Attendance 5%; Presentation (Extra credit) 10%;

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

**\* Classroom**

Building 140, Room 130

**\* Date and Time**

Tuesday, 2:00 – 5:00 pm.

**\* 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. Singleton, Royce A. Jr., and Bruce C. Straits. 2010. *Approaches to Social Research*. Fifth Edition. Oxford University Press.

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

**\*Course Schedule:**

**Week 1 (September 5) Introduction to the Course**

**Homework 1**: Review paper on Rindfuss and Morgan(1983) by Monday, September 11, 5:00 pm; [compmethsnu@gmail.com](mailto:compmethsnu@gmail.com)

**Week 2 (September 12) Research Design 1: Exploratory and Explanatory Demographic Research; Modernization; Relation**

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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Week 3 (Monday, September 18, 9 am) Research Design 1: Exploratory and Explanatory Demographic Research; Modernization; Relation (Continued)**

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.

**Homework 2**: Review paper on Beckfield(2006) by Monday, September 25, 5:00 pm; [compmethsnu@gmail.com](mailto:compmethsnu@gmail.com)

* Prepare for Submitting Tentative Research Topic with Significance in Your Discipline by 5:00 pm, Monday, September 25

**Week 4 (September 26) Research Design 2: Quantitative Research; Aggregate Data; Conceptualization and Measurement (Continued)**

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

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

Singleton et al.(2010). Ch. 5. “Measurement” Pp. 115-149.

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

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

**Presentation:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Week 5 (October 3) No CLASS**

* Prepare for review of prior research by 5:00 pm, Monday, October 9

**Week 6 (October 10) Research Design 2: Quantitative Research; Aggregate Data; Conceptualization and Measurement (Continued)**

Schutt(2006). Ch. 6 “Validity in Three Dimensions” Pp.189-215.

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

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

**Homework 3**: Review paper on Ono(2007) by Monday, October 16, 5:00 pm; [compmethsnu@gmail.com](mailto:compmethsnu@gmail.com)

* Prepare for Research Questions and Hypotheses by 5:00 pm, Monday, October 16

**Week 7 (October 17) Research Design 3: Quantitative and Comparative Research; Survey; Sampling**

Schutt(2006). Ch. 5 “Sampling” Pp.147-183.

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

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

Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 8 (October 24) Research Design 3: Quantitative and Comparative Research; Survey; Sampling (Continued)**

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

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

**Week 9 (October 31) Mid-term Exam**

**Week 10 (November 7) Interpreting Quantitative Research 1**

* Prepare for Data and Method by 5:00 pm, Monday, November 13

**Week 11 (November 14) Interpreting Quantitative Research 2**

**Homework 4**: Review paper on Kirk(2009) by Monday, November 20, 5:00 pm; [compmethsnu@gmail.com](mailto:compmethsnu@gmail.com)

* Prepare for First Draft of Proposal by 5:00 pm, Monday, November 20

**Week 12 (November 21) Research Design 4: Experiment; Natural Experiment**

Singleton et al.(2010). Ch.8 “Experimental Designs” Pp. 230-262.

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

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

Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Homework 5**: Review paper on Otis(2008) and Gerson(2010) by Monday, November 27, 5:00 pm; [compmethsnu@gmail.com](mailto:compmethsnu@gmail.com)

* Prepare for Second Draft of Proposal by 5:00 pm, Monday, November 28

**Week 13 (November 28) Research Design 5: Qualitative Research; In-Depth Interview; Semi-structured interview**

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.

Gerson, Kathleen. 2010. *The Unfinished Revolution. How a New Generation Is Reshaping Family, Work, and Gender in America*. Oxford University Press. “Ch. 7. Men’s Resistance to Equal Sharing” Pp.159-188.

Presentation(2): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 14 (December 5) Research Design 5: Qualitative Research; In-Depth Interview; Semi-structured interview (Continued)**

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.

Gerson, Kathleen. 2010. *The Unfinished Revolution. How a New Generation Is Reshaping Family, Work, and Gender in America*. Oxford University Press. “Ch. 7. Men’s Resistance to Equal Sharing” Pp.159-188.

**Comprehensive Discussion**

**Week 15 (December 12) Final Exam**

Submission of the Final Research Proposal, 5:00 pm, Monday, December 18: [compmethsnu@gmail.com](mailto:compmethsnu@gmail.com); A hardcopy to an assistant at room 620.

* 20 pages including tables, figures and reference
* Double space
* Arial, Point 12
* Title, Date, Name, Major, Student ID, Table of Contents, Abstract, Main Text, and Reference