

Comparative Methodology

Spring, 2023

Graduate School of International Studies
Seoul National University

Instructor: Prof. Ki-Soo Eun (Bldg. 14-1, Room 611)

Email: compmethsnu@gmail.com

Assistant: Kyuwon Choi

*** 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 30%; Final exam 30%; Project 35%; 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 140-1, Room 102

*** Date and Time**

Wednesday, 9:15 – 11:50 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 send their presentation files to compmethsnu@gmail.com one day before the class each week.**

- Presentation: Up to 30 minutes

*Check eTL pretty often.

* Project: Preparation of a **quantitative** research proposal

- Tentative Topic (with significance of this research topic in your discipline) by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, March 21
- Topic may be chosen from a relation between dependent and independent variables
- Critical Review of Prior Research by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, April 4
- Research Questions and Hypotheses by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, April 11
- Introduction by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, April 18
- Data and Method by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 9

- First draft of Proposal by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 16
- Second Draft of Proposal by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 23
- Submission of the Final Research Proposal, 5:00 pm, Monday, June 19

***Course Schedule:**

Week 1 (3/1, 10:00 am) Introduction to the Course (Online)

Topic: Comparative Methodology Spring 2023

Time: Mar 1, 2023 10:00 AM Seoul

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://snu-ac->

[kr.zoom.us/j/93224629931?pwd=WE1DaGc4b1VKYIZIT2NuNTNzUFduQT09](https://snu-ac-kr.zoom.us/j/93224629931?pwd=WE1DaGc4b1VKYIZIT2NuNTNzUFduQT09)

Meeting ID: 932 2462 9931

Passcode: 512991

Week 2 (3/8) 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.

Week 3 (3/15) How to write a proposal?

Special lecture: Suebin Park (International Commerce Major, 3rd Semester, GSIS, SNU)

*** *Preparation of Presentation on Week 4*

1. Rindfuss et al.: _____
2. Eun's works: _____

- Prepare for Submitting Tentative Research Topic with Significance in Your Discipline by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, March 21

Week 4 (3/22) Review of Prior Proposal

Eun, Ki-Soo. 1991. "Doctoral Research Proposal"

Rindfuss, Ronald, C. Gray Swicegood and Rachel A. Rosenfeld. 1987. "Disorder in the Life Course: How Common and Does It Matter?" *American Sociological Review* 52(6): 785-801.

Eun, Ki-Soo. 1994. "Ch. 6. The Consequences of Sequences of Life Events on Marriage Timing" *Transition to Adulthood in Korea*. Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation. Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.

Presentation _____

Week 5 (3/29) Quantitative Research 1

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 by Hyunjung Lee (International Cooperation Major, 3rd semester, GSIS, SNU)

- Prepare for review of prior research by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, April 4

Week 6 (4/5) Quantitative Research 2

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

- Prepare for Research Questions and Hypotheses by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, April 11

Week 7 (4/12) Quantitative Research 3

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

*** Preparation of Presentation on Week 8

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- Prepare for Introduction by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, April 18

Week 8 (4/19) Quantitative and Comparative Research

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

Presentation: _____

Week 9 (4/26) Mid-term Exam

- Prepare for Data and Method by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 9

Week 10 (5/3) Interpreting Quantitative Research 1

- Prepare for Data and Method by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 9

Week 11 (5/10) Interpreting Quantitative Research 2

*** *Preparation of Presentation on Week 12*

- Prepare for First Draft of Proposal by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 16

Week 12 (5/17) 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: _____

*** *Preparation of Presentation on Week 13*

- Prepare for Second Draft of Proposal by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 23

Week 13 (5/24) Qualitative Research

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: _____

Week 14 (5/31) Presentation of Research Proposal (5 students)

Week 15 (6/7) Final Exam

Submission of the Final Research Proposal, 5:00 pm, Monday, June 19:

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