**Comparative Methodology**

Spring, 2019

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**

Individual research proposal (**10-15 pages**, **double space**, **font 12, by June 19**)

Including 1) definition of major concepts 2) reference (consisting of about 20 prior research 3) critical review of prior research

**\* Grading**

Project 30%; Mid-term exam 25%; Final exam 25%; Quiz 10%; Attendance: 10%

**\* Classroom**

Building 140, Room 103

**\* Date and Time**

Tuesday, 1:30 – 4:30 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 pretty often.

**\*Course Schedule:**

**Week 1 (3/5) 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 individual project

**Week 2 (3/12) Relation: Association, Causal relation, Mechanism 1 (Class starts 12:30 pm)**

\*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 Rindfuss and Morgan (1983);*

**Week 3 (3/19) Relation: Association, Causal relation, Mechanism 2**

\*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), Levitt and Dubner (2005)*

**Week 4 (3/26) 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)*

**Week 5 (4/2) Data 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.

\*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 by students on data*

**Week 6 (4/9) Data 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.

\*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 by students on data*

**Week 7 (4/16) ) 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*

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

**Week 8 (4/23) Mid-term Exam**

**Week 9 (4/30) 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.

**Week 10 (5/7) 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 11 (5/14) 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 12 (5/21) 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 13 (5/28) 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 (6/4) Project Presentation**

**Week 15 (6/11) Final Examination**