



Course title	Research Methods for Governance Studies: Qualitative and Quantitative Methods
Course Code	GOV403.1
Category (core/elective)	Core
Level	MA in Governance
Duration (semesters)	1
Semester when taught (autumn/spring)	Autumn
ECTS:	7.5
Access requirements	None
Responsible	Dr. Maria-Eleni Agoraki and Dr. Theodoros Fouskas
Course objectives	
<p>The first part of the course, taught by Dr. Maria-Eleni Agoraki, aims at providing students with the necessary skills to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses in the use quantitative research methods and apply the appropriate ones according to the research demands. This will allow students to critically apply diverse research methods and interpret quantitative data, while using statistical software packages.</p> <p>The second part of the course, taught by Dr. Theodoros Fouskas, aims at preparing students for the conduction of a qualitative research by familiarizing them with different methods such as in-depth interviews, focus groups, and participant-observation, as well as with research design, ethical issues, data analysis, and preparation of findings for publication. They will be able to formulate researchable questions, take into consideration ethical guidelines for data collection and define a research strategy and design a research project to answer a research question. The course will expand what one learned during the introductory course to research methods “<i>Research Methods in Political Sciences: Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis</i>”, will contribute to the formulation of a research project to be carried out during the semester.</p>	
Course Description	
<p>This course, in the first part, specifies key features of quantitative research design using appropriate statistical software. The first lecture outlines the basic concepts and processes of quantitative research methods and the first stages in carrying out a quantitative research project while analyzing the logic of experimental design. The course then continues to</p>	

discuss the sampling and pros and cons of different approaches. Moreover, it presents the survey methods, the design methods of questionnaires as well as interviewing techniques.

The second part of the course provides an overview of data analysis techniques, presenting the principles of statistical inference, the estimation and explanation of descriptive statistics and the tests of statistical significance using appropriate statistical software. The course ends with the parametric and non-parametric analysis and the concepts of correlation and regression. The purpose of the course, in the second part, is to introduce students to the field of qualitative research and prepare them in the skills, techniques, and knowledge necessary to undertake independent research using this methodology. Students will be introduced to key research strategies in qualitative research and principles for research design in qualitative research. In addition, they will be able to manage qualitative data, engage in participant observation and to conduct structured and semi-structured, in-depth interviews with study participants. Moreover, students will learn how to obtain narratives and life histories, to organize and conduct focus groups with study participants and to manage qualitative data using computerized text analysis software programs.

Course Outline

Part 1

1. Introduction to quantitative research methods, Experimental design and measurement strategies
2. Sampling, questionnaires and interviews
3. Quantitative data analysis
4. Statistical inference and tests of statistical significance
5. Correlation and regression, Multivariate analysis

The first part of the course is organized around five lectures and their corresponding seminars.

Part 2

1. Introduction to Qualitative Research
2. Conceptualizing a Qualitative Study and Ethical Issues
3. Different Qualitative Studies
4. Thematizing and Designing: Introducing and Focusing the Study
5. Data Collection: Conducting an Interview
6. *Analysis Workshop 1: Interview Design, Analysis and Interpretation*
7. Transcription of Interviews, Analysis and Interpretation
8. *Analysis Workshop 2: Interview Design, Analysis and Interpretation*
9. Validity, Generalization and Reporting
10. *Analysis Workshop 3: Interview Design, Analysis and Interpretation*

The second part of course is organized around seven lectures and three corresponding seminars:

Educational Outcomes

By the end of the **first part** of course the students are expected to be able to have a broad

understanding of research methods in political sciences. They should be able to apply appropriate techniques to the collection and analysis of quantitative data as well as identify and critically evaluate an appropriate research approach, methods and tools for a specific research project. Finally, the students are expected to be able to use appropriate statistical software to analyse quantitative data. Upon completion of the **second part** of the course students will be able:

- To understand the importance of qualitative research methods in the study of social phenomena;
- To identify if a research issue needs qualitative research methods;
- To conduct in-depth interviews;
- To organize data from in-depth interviews and observations;
- To conduct qualitative research methods alongside other methods;
- To be sensitive to ethical issues and to working with different populations;
- To develop and clearly define their ideas and ethically integrate sources of various kinds into their writing;
- To compose texts through drafting, revising, and completing a finished product;
To express themselves through their writing by posing questions, making original claims, and coherently structuring complex ideas.

<p>Basic Textbook(s)</p>	<p>Brinkmann, S. and Kvale, S. (2015) <i>Interviews: InterViews Learning the Craft of Qualitative Research Interviewing</i>. Los Angeles: Sage.</p> <p>Bryman, A., and Cramer, D. (2011). <i>Quantitative data analysis with IBM SPSS 17, 18 and 19</i>. Routledge.</p> <p>Creswell, J. and Poth, C. (2017). <i>Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Traditions. Fourth Edition</i>. Thousand Oaks, California: Sage.</p> <p>McNabb, D. E. (2015). <i>Research methods for political science: Quantitative and qualitative methods</i>. Routledge.</p>
<p>Basic Bibliography</p>	<p>Anderson, K. and D. Jack (1998.) "Learning to Listen: Interview Techniques and Analyses", in Perks, R. and Thompson, A. (1998) <i>Oral History Reader</i>. London: Routledge, 157-171.</p> <p>Bazeley, P. (2013). <i>Qualitative Data Analysis: Practical Strategies</i>. Thousand Oaks: Sage.</p> <p>Bazeley, P. and Jackson, K. (2013). <i>Qualitative Data Analysis with NVivo. Second Edition</i>. Thousand Oaks: Sage.</p> <p>Berg, S. (1988) "Snowball Sampling" in S. Kotz and N. L. Johnson (eds.) <i>Encyclopedia of Statistical Sciences</i>, vol. 7. New York: Wiley, 7817-7821.</p> <p>Bickman, L., and Rog, D. J. (Eds.). (2008). <i>The Sage handbook of applied social research methods</i>. Sage publications.</p> <p>Bilsborrow, R. et al. (eds.) (1984) <i>Migration Surveys in Low Income Countries</i>. London: Croom Helm.</p> <p>Blair, J., Czaja, R. F., and Blair, E. A. (2013). <i>Designing surveys: A guide to decisions and procedures</i>. Sage Publications.</p> <p>Bryman, A. (2015). <i>Social research methods</i>. Oxford university press.</p> <p>Buttolph J, Reynolds, H. and Mycoff, J. (2016). <i>Political</i></p>

Science Research Methods. Thousand Oak: Sage.

Chambliss, D. and Shutt, R. (2016) *Making Sense of the Social World: Methods of Investigation. Second Edition*. Los Angeles: Sage.

Cornelius, W. A. (1982). "Interviewing Undocumented Immigrants: Methodological Reflections Based on Fieldwork in Mexico and the U.S.", *International Migration Review*, 16(2):178-411.

Cresswell, J. and Clark, V. (2017). *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Creswell, J. W. (2013). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches*. Sage publications.

Denzin, N. (1989). *Interpretive Biography: Qualitative Research Methods*. London: Sage.

Denzin, N. and Lincoln, Y (2013). *Handbook of Qualitative Research. Second Edition*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Denzin, N. and Lincoln, Y. (eds.) (2011). *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Devine, F. (1995) "Qualitative Methods", in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, 137-153.

Dillman, D.A., Smyth, J.D. and Christian, L.M. (2014). *Internet, phone, mail and mixed-mode surveys: The tailored design method. (4th Ed.)*. Wiley, New York, NY.

Emerson, R., Fretz, R., and Shaw, L. (2011). *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Fowler Jr, F. J. (2013). *Survey research methods*. Sage publications.

Gillham, B. (2000) *The Research Interview*. London/New York: Continuum.

Goodman, L. A. (1961). "Snowball Sampling", *The Annals of Mathematical Statistics*, 32(1):148-170.

Groves, R. M., Fowler Jr, F. J., Couper, M. P., Lepkowski, J. M., Singer, E., and Tourangeau, R. (2011). *Survey methodology* (Vol. 561). John Wiley and Sons.

Hanushek, E. A. and Jackson, J. E. (2013). *Statistical methods for social scientists*. Academic Press.

Healey, J. F., Boli, J., Babbie, E. R., and Halley, F. (Eds.). (2009). *Exploring social issues: Using SPSS for Windows*. Sage Publications.

Johnson, J. B., Reynolds, H. T., and Mycoff, J. D. (2015). *Political science research methods*. Cq Press.

Marsh, D., and Stoker, G. (Eds.). (2010). *Theory and methods in political science*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Marshall, C. and G. Rossman (1999). *Designing Qualitative Research*. California: Sage.

Marshall, C. and Rossman, G. (2016). *Designing Qualitative Research. Sixth Edition*. Los Angeles: Sage.

McNabb, D. (2016). *Research Methods for Political Science*:

	<p><i>Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches</i>. London/New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Morgan, D. (1997). <i>Focus Groups as Qualitative Research</i>. Newbury Park: Sage.</p> <p>Peräkylä, A. (1997). "Reliability and Validity in Research Based on Transcripts", in D. Silverman (ed.) <i>Qualitative Research</i>. London: Sage, 201-220.</p> <p>Price, G., and Maier, P. (2007). <i>Effective Study Skills</i>. Harlow: Pearson.</p> <p>Savin-Baden, M. and Major, C. (2013). <i>Qualitative Research: The Essential Guide to Theory and Practice</i>. Rutledge: New York City.</p> <p>Silverman, D. (2010). <i>Doing Qualitative Research</i>. London: Sage.</p> <p>Silverman, D. (2013). <i>Doing Qualitative Research. Fourth Edition</i>. Thousand Oaks: Sage.</p> <p>Trochim, W. (2000). <i>The Research Methods Knowledge Base (2nd Ed.)</i>. Atomic Dog Publishing, Cincinnati, OH.</p>								
Additional Bibliography	Additional bibliography will be offered specifically for each lecture.								
Teaching Methodology	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Lectures</td> <td>12 x 2 = 24 h</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tutorials</td> <td>6 x 2 = 12 h</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total = 36 h</td> </tr> </table> <p>The course will be delivered through participative lectures and class discussions based on case studies and via short videos and other multimedia sources, such as photographs, documentaries, films, interviews, as sources of data in the classroom.</p>	Lectures	12 x 2 = 24 h	Tutorials	6 x 2 = 12 h		Total = 36 h		
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Evaluation	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td>45 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Course Participation</td> <td>10 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paper(s)</td> <td>45 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </table>	Final Exam	45 %	Course Participation	10 %	Paper(s)	45 %		100%
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Language	English								
Traineeship	No								
Location	Athens								
General note	While the 'Course Objectives' and 'Educational Outcomes' above remain immutable, the 'Course Content' and 'Course Outline' may be altered in order to accommodate student's needs and individual professor's approaches. Bibliography and reading materials may vary accordingly.								