POS 6746.0W60. QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN POLITICAL RESEARCH (84846)
Fall 2020

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Office Hours via Email/Phone/Zoom: Tuesday 10:00 AM - Noon & Thursday 2:00-4:00 PM or by appointment; office hours will be held via email/phone/Zoom.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course places emphasis on the logic of research design and data analysis. Students

- are introduced to the principles of research design
- learn techniques of quantitative analysis
- analyze political datasets using statistical software
- develop skills to become practitioners of quantitative methodology
- learn how to interpret and evaluate quantitative work.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Philip H. Pollock III & Barry C. Edwards. 2020. *The Essentials of Political Analysis*. 6th Edition. Sage & CQ Press

Philip H. Pollock III & Barry C. Edwards. 2019. *A STATA Companion to Political Analysis*. 4nd Edition. Sage & CQ Press

ZOOM SESSIONS

We will conduct a Zoom session weekly, on **Thursday 6:00-8:00 PM starting September 3rd.** These sessions are intended to provide an introduction to the assigned class material for that week and answer students' questions.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

Hamilton, Lawrence C. 2013. Statistics with STATA: Version 12. 8th Edition. Brooks/Cole Cengage Learning.

Kennedy, Peter. 2008. A Guide to Econometrics. 6th Edition. Wiley-Blackwell.

SOFTWARE:

We will use STATA in this course, a general-purpose professional statistical software package for data analysis in class. UCF offers access to Stata via UCF-Apps. If you want to install it on your own PC or laptop, you can purchase the software for 6 months ($94) at:
http://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/gradplans/student-pricing/

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Course grades are determined by

a) **Regular assignments** (35%): You will have a week to complete each assignment. Except for cases involving overriding and well documented personal circumstances, late work will not be accepted.
b) **Final exam** (25%) An exam and a dataset will be provided to you; you will use STATA to conduct analysis and answer the exam questions.
c) **Research paper** (40%) (15-18 pages) This is a collaborative project; you will work in a team of three collaborators. You will use one of the STATA Companion datasets. Identify a research question and proceed to design a plan to investigate it. I suggest you pick a research question that is well focused and manageable.
A team member will be designated as 'spokesperson.' The team spokesperson will be well informed of the project progress. Work among team members will be divided as follows: (1) Introduction and Literature Review, (2) Research Design, Hypotheses, and (3) Analysis, findings, and conclusion. Team members are expected to collaborate via Zoom and email. We will set up Zoom meetings to discuss your project and answer any team members' questions.

Your paper should also discuss potential problems encountered in the conduct of the research and the limitations of the research.

The research paper is due on Tuesday, December 1. There will be student **presentations of the papers on Tuesday, November 17**; all members in the project team are expected to participate in the presentation of the paper.

(i) Evaluation:
   a. Individual assignment: 25 pts
   b. Paper: 10 pts
   c. Presentation: 5 pts

d) **Extra credit**: This course has an extra-credit assignment: you will take an online quiz of 20 multiple-choice questions. This assignment will be a total of 2 extra points to be added to your final grade.

GRADING SCALE

Numeric	90+	87-89	80-86	77-79	70-76	67-69	60-66	59-below
Letter	A	B+	B	C+	C	D+	D	F

FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID REQUIREMENT: RECORDING ACADEMIC ACTIVITY POLICY

UCF must comply with a federal financial aid regulation that states that in order to receive federal aid, students must be actively academically engaged (according to a federal definition) in each course in which they are enrolled. All faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. Without verification of this engagement, students will not receive their aid.

In order to document that you began this course, please **complete the canvas assignment** by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course, but **no later than August 28**. **Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.**

REQUIRED STATEMENT REGARDING COVID-19

University-Wide Face Covering Policy for Common Spaces and Face-to-Face Classes

To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf. Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive (please see the Golden Rule for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

Notifications in Case of Changes to Course Modality

Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, please look for announcements or messages in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email about changes specific to this course.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification

Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place.

Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)

Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class.

In Case of Faculty Illness

If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please look for announcements or mail in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Course Accessibility and Disability COVID-19 Supplemental Statement

Accommodations may need to be added or adjusted should this course shift from an on-campus to a remote format. Students with disabilities should speak with their instructor and should contact sas@ucf.edu to discuss specific accommodations for this or other courses.

VIRTUAL SESSIONS

Because of the continued remote instruction requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this course will use Zoom for some synchronous ("real time") class meetings.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with Zoom by visiting the UCF Zoom Guides at <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/zoom/>. You may choose to use Zoom on your mobile device (phone or tablet).

Things to Know About Zoom:

- You must sign in to my Zoom session using your UCF NID and password.
- The Zoom sessions are recorded.
- Improper classroom behavior is not tolerated within Zoom sessions and may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct.
- You can contact Webcourses@UCF Support at <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/> if you have any technical issues accessing Zoom.

POLICY STATEMENTS

Professionalism and Student Conduct

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a civil and professional manner. Disrupted behavior, profanity, or any other offensive behavior will not be tolerated. All mobile devices must be turned off and put out of view during class meetings. Repeated violations of professionalism will result in a reduction in course grade.

If there is anything in the syllabus that is unclear, it is up to the student to contact the professor for clarification. Also, it is the student's responsibility to be informed of any announcements made in class meetings.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in

1. Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
3. Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.
5. Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.
6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult The Center for Academic Integrity.
For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices."

RESPONSES TO ACADEMIC DISHONESTY, PLAGIARISM, OR CHEATING

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule*. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, click here.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) <http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/> (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone 407-823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter

may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

CAMPUS SAFETY STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS IN ONLINE-ONLY COURSES

Though most emergency situations are primarily relevant to courses that meet in person, such incidents can also impact online students, either when they are on or near campus to participate in other courses or activities or when their course work is affected by off-campus emergencies. The following policies apply to courses in online modalities.

To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on the Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert", fill out the information, including e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK." Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.

VIRUSES

It is important to use a reputable anti-virus program (good ones include McAfee or Norton). **Also, back up your files**: Hard drives do crash and it is really inconvenient when they do. However, this is not a valid excuse for failing to get your work in on time.

E-MAIL PROTOCOLS

Do not expect an immediate response when you send a message. Generally, two days is considered reasonable amount of time to receive a reply. Please note that your professor only checks and answers to e-mails during regular business hours.

In the "Subject" heading include the course ID, *POS 6746.0W60* and your *last name*.

COPYRIGHT

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

DEPLOYED ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY STUDENTS

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact me to discuss your circumstances.

MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS FOR AUTHORIZED EVENTS OR CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students who represent the university in an authorized event or activity (for example, student-athletes) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event must provide the instructor with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will be applied. For more information, see the UCF policy at <https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.pdf>

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

Students must notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class for a religious observance. For more information, see the UCF policy at <http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALJan19.pdf>.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Note: This schedule is subject to change depending on the needs of the class. Students are responsible for any changes in syllabus/schedule which are announced in class.

Week	**Topics Covered:**	**Assignments:**
August 24	Getting Started	
August 31	Elements of Research	*Essentials*: Introduction *Essentials:* Chapter 1, pp. 1-13 *Essentials:* Chapter 3, pp. 72-82
September 7	Research Design	*Essentials*: Chapter 4, pp. 105-114; 123-126 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 1
September 14	Measurement Sampling	*Essentials*: Chapter 2, pp. 34-39 Chapter 1, pp. 13-26 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 3 *Essentials*: Chapter 4, pp. 114-123
September 21	Descriptive Statistics	*Essentials*: Chapter 2, pp. 39-64 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 2
September 28	Inference	*Essentials:* Chapter 6 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 6
October 5	Hypothesis Testing Error Types	*Essentials:* Chapter 3, pp. 82-85 Chapter 7, pp. 199-215 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 6
October 12	Bivariate Relationships Cross-Tabulations	*Essentials*: Chapter 3, pp. 86-91 Chapter 7, pp. 215-222 *Stata Companion*: Chapters 4 & 7 **RESEARCH PAPER OUTLINE DUE**

October 19	Making Controlled Comparisons	*Essentials*: Chapter 5 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 5
October 26	Correlation Regression Dummy Variables	*Essentials*: Chapter 8, pp. 239-257 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 8
November 2	Multivariate Regression Interaction Terms Multicollinearity	*Essentials*: Chapter 8, pp. 257-271 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 9
November 9	Logistic Regression	*Essentials*: Chapter 9 *Stata Companion*: Chapter 10
November 16		**RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS**
November 23	***Thanksgiving***	
November 30		**RESEARCH PAPER DUE** ***December 1, 11 PM***
December 7	***Final Exam Due Monday, December 7, 11 PM***	
December 10	***Extra-credit***	**MC Quiz**

JOURNAL ARTICLES TBA

Angrist, Michele. 2012. War, Resisting the West, and Women's Labor: Toward an Understanding of Arab Exceptionalism. *Politics & Gender* 8(1): 51-82

Benmelech Efraim, Claude Berrebi, and Esteban F. Klor. 2010. "The Economic Costs of Harboring Terrorism." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 52 (2): 331-353.

Biddle, Stephen and Stephen Long. 2004. "Democracy and Military Effectiveness: A Deeper Look." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 48 (4):525-546.

Chin, Michelle L. and Jon R. Bond, and Nehemia Geva. 2000. "A Foot in the Door: An Experimental Study of PAC and Constituency Effects on Access." *Journal of Politics* 62 (2): 534-549

Delli Carpini, Michael X. and Scott Keeter, "Measuring Political Knowledge: Putting First Things First," *American Journal of Political Science* 37, 4 (Nov 1993): 1179-1206.

Flores-Macias, Gustavo. "The Consequences of Militarizing Anti-Drug Efforts for State Capacity in Latin America: Evidence from Mexico," *Comparative Politics* 51, 1 (Oct 2018): 1-20.

Gerber, Alan S., Donald P. Green, and Christopher W. Larimer, "Social Pressure and Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment." *American Political Science Review* 102, 1 (February 2008): 33-48.

Hellwig, Timothy and David Samuels. 2007. "Voting in Open Economies: The Electoral Consequences of Globalization." *Comparative Political Studies*. 40(3): 283-306.

Hoerner, Julian M., Alexander Jaax and Toni Rodon. 2019. "The long-term impact of the location of concentration camps on radical-right voting in Germany." *Research and Politics*. October-December 2019: 1-8.

Karp Jeffey A., Susan A. Banducci and Shaun Bowler. 2007. "Getting Out the Vote: Party Mobilization in a Comparative Perspective." *British Journal of Political Science* 38: 91-112.

Niven, David. 2004. "The Mobilization Solution? Face-to-Face Contact and Voter Turnout in a Municipal Election." *Journal of Politics* 66 (3): 868-884.

Sides, John, and Jack Citrin. 2007. "European Opinion About Immigration: The Role of Identities, Interests and Information." *British Journal of Political Science* 37: 477-504

Solt, Frederick, Yue Hu, Kevan Hudson, Jungmin Song, and Dong "Erico" Yu. 2017. "Economic Inequality and Class Consciousness." *Journal of Politics* 79 (3): 1079-1083.

Squire, Perevill “Why the 1936 Literary Digest Poll Failed.” *Public Opinion Quarterly* 52(1): 125-133.

Yildirim, Murat T., Gülnur Kocapınar, and Yuksel Alper Ecevit. 2019. “Status Incongruity and Backlash against Female Legislators: How Legislative Speechmaking Benefits Men, but Harms Women.” *Political Research Quarterly* 1-11