

PO8046: MSc Research Design A
Michaelmas Term 2020
Room LB08 (Lloyd Institute), Wednesday 16:00 – 18:00

Lecturer: Alexander Held

Email: helda@tcd.ie

Office hours: Tuesday 15:00 – 17:00 during teaching weeks

Office: Online. Please send me an email if you plan to talk to me during my office hours.

1 Description & Objectives

This graduate seminar provides an introduction to the scientific inquiry of the political world. Students will learn how to identify compelling research questions and how to structure a study so as to contribute to an existing body of research. The emphasis of the module will be on the development of novel, falsifiable, and empirically testable explanations of political phenomena.

2 Module Requirements and Policies

2.1 Participation (10%)

Student participation in class discussion and debate on the readings is a central element of the seminar. Students are expected to have read all required readings and to have acquired detailed knowledge and developed informed critiques of the readings prior to the class meeting. This means active engagement in class discussion: listening to your peers' views and constructively engaging with them, while also demonstrating a clear understanding of the weekly readings. Students will be evaluated on the quality of their input in class discussion and debate, merely attending class is not a sufficient condition for achieving a passing participation mark. Seminar attendance is mandatory and absence may result in a lowered overall module grade if no medical certificate or similar documentation is provided.

2.2 Academic Peer-Review Report (22.5%)

For a scientific study to be published in a peer-reviewed journal, it must pass the scrutiny of anonymous expert reviewers. These reviewers are tasked with closely reading the paper, providing a thorough assessment of the quality and impact of the research, and offering to the journal editor a recommendation on publication (1. accept; 2. revise & resubmit; 3. reject). Students will be required to submit a peer-review report of a recent political science paper. You will review a paper which has been selected by the lecturer. The paper can be found on Blackboard. Guidelines on how to produce an effective peer-review report can also be found on Blackboard.

The required length of the peer-review report is between 1,000-1,500 words. The report should be submitted by **6pm on Friday, 4 December 2020** via Turnitin in Blackboard. Late submissions will not be accepted.

2.3 Research Proposal (5% + 22.5% + 40%)

The main course objective is to submit a research proposal at the end of Michaelmas Term based on principles of comparative research design as discussed in the weekly seminars. The focus should be on emphasizing the issues of research design rather than the substantive importance of the research project. That is, the focus of the proposal is not on providing a lengthy literature review (although some knowledge of academic work in the area should be demonstrated), but rather on writing a research proposal that specifies a well-defined research question which is grounded in theory and methodologically feasible. Although you may use this paper as a first attempt for your M.Sc. dissertation project, there is no need to do so, and you are not at all required to write your M.Sc. dissertation on the topic you choose to pursue for this particular module. However, you should not submit a proposal that overlaps with material submitted to another M.Sc. module.

Three-step approach to writing your research proposal

1. The research question: (1) must be causal in nature and should outline a broad question you are interested in exploring further; and (2) should include a short discussion of the variation to be explained, proposed causal explanation (including a discussion of the causal logic – i.e. the different steps – that links the independent variable to the dependent variables) and significance of research. Submission is due by **6pm on Friday, 23 October 2020**, via Turnitin in Blackboard. The paper should not exceed 800 words. The research question counts as 5% of your final grade.

2. Project outline: outline/summary of project including a more refined discussion of your research question, an indication of your causal explanatory variable (including a discussion of the causal logic that links your independent and dependent variables), a discussion of observable implications of your key causal variable and the importance/significance of the project. This paper will count 22.5% towards your overall grade. The project outline is due at **6pm on Monday, 16 November 2020**. The length of the project outline should be between 1250-1750 words (including reference list, footnotes, and title page).

3. Final research design: the final proposal will include a precise definition of your dependent variable, an outline of alternative explanations and observable implications of your key causal variable, address issues of testing and measurement, data collection and analysis. It essentially covers all the topics discussed throughout the course. This paper will count 40% towards your overall grade. The final research design paper is due at **6pm on Tuesday, 5 January 2020**. The length of the paper should be between 2,750 and 3,500 words (including footnotes, references and title page). You may find a handout with guidelines for the final research design paper on Blackboard.

2.4 Late work

All late work, unless excused **in advance by the module lecturer**, or justified by medical certificate, will be penalised at a rate of 5 marks per 24 hours. Under no circumstances will work be accepted after the set work has been marked and handed back to other students, or after the end of Michaelmas term. Make sure to save and back-up your work. Computer crashes or failure to back up your work will not count as acceptable excuses for late work!

2.5 Written Work Submission Guidelines

- Academic & Professional Ethics: Please do not plagiarize. Academic dishonesty is a serious matter, with serious consequences that can result in receiving no credit for an assignment, a failing grade for the module, and even expulsion from the programme. It is never permissible to turn in any work that contains others' ideas without proper acknowledgment. It is your responsibility to make sure that your work meets the standard of academic honesty set forth in the College Calendar (see <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/calendar>). Useful information is available at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism>. If you are paraphrasing, cite the source. If you are quoting, use quotation marks and appropriate citation. Remember that academic integrity is a reflection of one's character. In addition, we strongly recommend that you visit <http://www.plagiarism.org/> for more information on what is and is not plagiarism. Lastly, students are required to only submit "new work" in each module, which means work that has not been submitted previously in any other university module. Students who wish to use previously submitted work as part of a new project will need the approval of the lecturer.
- The Assignment Submission Form available from the Departmental website (https://www.tcd.ie/Political_Science/assets/word/Plagiarism%20cover%20sheet.docx) should be filled out and included as the first page of all your submissions.
- All written assignments are to be submitted through Turnitin in Blackboard.
- All papers should be typeset in a 12 point font, using 1.5pt spacing. When in doubt follow usual practices for academic work, as exemplified by articles in major political science journals. Use a consistent reference style throughout the paper (author-year is preferred).

2.6 Syllabus Modification Rights

I reserve the right to reasonably alter the elements of the syllabus at any time. More often than not this will mean adjusting the reading list to keep pace with the course schedule, although I may add reading assignments as well.

3 Readings

The main texts for this module are:

- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton University Press.
 - This book is available online through TCD Library.
- Gerring, J., 2012. *Social Science Methodology: A Unified Framework*. Cambridge University Press.

We will also read a selection of articles and chapters as detailed in the module schedule below. Most readings and other relevant materials are available on Blackboard.

For those with a limited social science methods background, it might be helpful to start by reading chapters from an introductory text, such as:

- Kellstedt, P. M. and Whitten, G. D., 2018. *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*. 3rd edition, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed.
- Shively, W.P., 2016. *The craft of political research*. Routledge.

4 Course Outline

Week 1 Can we study politics scientifically?; Research Questions

Week 2 Concept Formation, Theory Development & Hypothesis Testing

Week 3 The Logic of Statistical Analysis

Week 4 Challenges of Causal Inference

23/10/20 Research question paper due, 6 PM

Week 5 Causal Mechanisms & Process Tracing

Week 6 Case Studies & Case Selection

Week 7 Reading Week (no class)

16/11/20 Project outline due, 6 PM

Week 8 The Nuts-and-Bolts of Process Tracing & Mixed Methods Design

Week 9 Operationalization and Measurement

Week 10 Methods of Data Collection

4/12/20 Academic peer-review report due, 6 PM

Week 11 Bias in Measurement and Research

Week 12 Writing the Research Proposal

5/1/21 Final research design proposal due, 6 PM

5 Course Schedule

Week 1. Can we study politics scientifically?; Research Questions

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, Chapter 1.

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 1994. *Designing social inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton university press, Chapter 1.
- Gerring, J., 2012. *Social science methodology: A unified framework*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2.

- Firebaugh, G., 2008. "The first rule: There should be the possibility of surprise in social research." In: *Seven Rules for Social Research*. Princeton University Press, pp. 1-13 & "Is meaningful social science possible?" pp. 26-29. URL: <http://press.princeton.edu/chapters/s8593.pdf>
- Mahoney, J. and Goertz, G., 2006. "A tale of two cultures: Contrasting quantitative and qualitative research." *Political analysis*, 14(3), pp. 227-249. (skim this article)

Audiovisual (optional):

- Feynman, Richard (1964) "On the Scientific Method." [9:59], available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYPapE-3FRw>

Week 2. Concept Formation, Theory Development & Hypothesis Testing

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, 'Measurement error: the enemy', pp. 75-79 and chapter 2.
- Shively, W.P., 2016. *The craft of political research*. Routledge, Chapter 11.

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- Popper, K., 1963. "Science as Falsification." In: *Conjectures and Refutation*. pp. 33-39. URL: <http://staff.washington.edu/lynnhank/Popper-1.pdf>
- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 1994. *Designing social inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton university press, pp. 100-107 (Rules 1 and 2).
- Gerring, J., 1999. "What makes a concept good? A criterial framework for understanding concept formation in the social sciences." *Polity*, pp. 357-393. URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3235246>
- Gerring, J., 2012. *Social science methodology: A unified framework*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 3.

Theoretical readings (optional):

- Goertz, G., 2006. *Social science concepts: A user's guide*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-2.
- The Guardian (18 August 2012) "Thomas Kuhn: the man who changed the way the world looked at science." URL: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2012/aug/19/thomas-kuhn-structure-scientific-revolutions>

Research examples (**required**):

- Putnam, Robert D., Leonardi, R., and Nanetti, R., 1993. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, p. 8-9.
- Downs, A., 1957. "An economic theory of political action in a democracy." *The Journal of Political Economy*, pp. 135-150.

Audiovisual (optional):

- In Our Time BBC 4 (2007) "Karl Popper" [42:17], available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0vjUEiZmxl>
- This American Life (8 April 2016) "Knock, Knock. Who's there? The Truth." [Podcast, 27:00]
URL: <https://www.thisamericanlife.org/584/for-your-reconsideration/act-one>

Week 3. The Logic of Statistical Analysis

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 1994. *Designing social inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton university press, sections 2.6 and 2.7 (skim the rest of chapter 2).
- Kellstedt, P. M. and Whitten, G. D., 2013. *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*. 2nd edition, New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 7-15, 171-178, 202-206, 214-216.
- Sykes, Alan. O., 1993. "An Introduction to Regression Analysis," University of Chicago Law School, Working Paper in Law and Economics No. 20.

Theoretical readings (optional):

- Kellstedt, P. M. and Whitten, G. D., 2013. *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*. 2nd edition, New York: Cambridge University Press, chapters 8 and 9.

Research examples (**required**):

- Colaresi, Michael, and William R. Thompson, 2003. "The Economic Development-Democratization Relationship: Does the Outside World Matter?" *Comparative Political Studies* 36, no. 4: 381-403.
- Collier, P. and Hoeffler, A., 2004. "Greed and grievance in civil war." *Oxford economic papers*, 56(4), pp. 563-595. URL: <http://oep.oxfordjournals.org/content/56/4/563.short>

Week 4. Challenges of Causal Inference

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, Chapter 6.
- Shively, W.P., 2016. *The craft of political research*. Routledge, Chapter 6.

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 1994. *Designing social inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton university press, Chapter 3.

- McDermott, R., 2002. "Experimental methods in political science." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 5(1), pp. 31-61. URL: <http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev.polisci.5.091001.170657>

Research examples (required):

- Gerber, A.S. and Green, D.P., 2000. "The effects of canvassing, telephone calls, and direct mail on voter turnout: A field experiment." *American Political Science Review*, 94(03), pp. 653-663. URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2585837>

Real-world examples (required):

- Ionica Smeets (2012) "The danger of mixing up causality and correlation" [5:56]
URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8B271L3NtAw>
- Stephen Dubner and Steven Levitt (2011) "Correlation vs. Causality" [3:22]
URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t8ADnyw5ou8>

Theoretical readings (optional):

- Titiunik, R., 2015. "Can big data solve the fundamental problem of causal inference?" *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 48(01), pp. 75-79.
- Imai, K., Keele, L., Tingley, D. and Yamamoto, T., 2011. "Unpacking the black box of causality: Learning about causal mechanisms from experimental and observational studies." *American Political Science Review*, 105(4), pp. 765-789.
- Humphreys, M. and Weinstein, J.M., 2009. "Field experiments and the political economy of development." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 12, pp. 367-378.

Research examples (optional):

- Owen, John M. 1994. "How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace." *International Security* 19 (2):87-125. (a good example for process tracing)
- Snyder, Jack, and Erica D. Borghard. "The Cost of Empty Threats: A Penny, Not a Pound." *American Political Science Review* 105 (03):437-56. (process tracing)
- Barberá, P., Jost, J.T., Nagler, J., Tucker, J.A. and Bonneau, R., 2015. Tweeting From Left to Right: Is Online Political Communication More Than an Echo Chamber? *Psychological science*, pp. 1-12.
- Bond, R.M., Fariss, C.J., Jones, J.J., Kramer, A.D., Marlow, C., Settle, J.E. and Fowler, J.H., 2012. A 61-million-person experiment in social influence and political mobilization. *Nature*, 489(7415), pp. 295-298. URL: <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v489/n7415/pdf/nature11421.pdf>

Week 5. Causal Mechanisms & Process Tracing

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, Chapter 5.

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- Hall, P.A., 2006. "Systematic process analysis: when and how to use it." *European Management Review*, 3(1), pp. 24-31.
- Gerring, J., 2007. *Case study research: Principles and practices*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 7.
- Collier, David, Henry E. Brady, and Jason Seawright. "Toward an Alternative View of Methodology: Sources of Leverage in Causal Inference." in *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*, edited by Henry E. Brady and David Collier, **pages 244-266** only.
- Collier, D., 2011. "Understanding process tracing." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 44(04), pp. 823-830.

Theoretical readings (optional):

- Mahoney, J. (2015). "Process tracing and historical explanation." *Security Studies*, 24(2), 200-218.
- Hall, Peter A. 2003. "Aligning Ontology and Methodology in Comparative Politics." Pp. 373-404 in *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*, edited by James Mahoney and Dietrich Rueschemeyer. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Research examples (**required**):

- McKeown, Timothy J. 1983. "Hegemonic Stability Theory and 19th Century Tariff Levels in Europe." *International Organization* 37:73-91. (an example of process tracing; see next week)
- Weaver, V.M., 2007. "Frontlash: Race and the development of punitive crime policy." *Studies in American political development*, 21(02), pp. 230-265.

Week 6. Case Studies and Case Selection

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, Chapters 7 and 13.

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- Gerring, J., 2004. "What is a case study and what is it good for?" *American political science review*, 98(02), pp. 341-354. URL: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0003055404001182
- Seawright, J. and Gerring, J., 2008. "Case selection techniques in case study research: a menu of qualitative and quantitative options." *Political Research Quarterly*, 61(2), pp. 294-308.

Theoretical readings (optional):

- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 1994. *Designing social inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton university press, Chapter 4.
- Coppedge, M., Lieberman, E.S., Mahoney, J., Smith, R.M., Gerring, J., 2007. "Symposium: John Gerring, Case Study Research: Principles and Practices." *Qualitative Methods: Newsletter of the APSA Organized Section for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* 5(2), pp. 2-15.

Research examples (**required**):

- Posner, D.N., 2004. "The political salience of cultural difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas are allies in Zambia and adversaries in Malawi." *American Political Science Review*, 98(04), pp. 529-545. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0003055404041334>

Week 8. The Nuts-and-Bolts of Process Tracing & Mixed Methods Design

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- Bennett, Andrew. 2010. "Process Tracing and Causal Inference." In *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*, 2nd ed., ed. Brady, Henry E. and Collier, David, 207–19. Lanham, MD. Rowman and Littlefield. Available at: [http://philsci-archive.pitt.edu/8872/1/Bennett Chapter in Brady and Collier Second Edition.pdf](http://philsci-archive.pitt.edu/8872/1/Bennett%20Chapter%20in%20Brady%20and%20Collier%20Second%20Edition.pdf)
- Lieberman, E.S., 2005. "Nested analysis as a mixed-method strategy for comparative research." *American Political Science Review*, 99(03), pp. 435-452. URL: <http://journals.cambridge.org/abstractS0003055405051762>

Research examples (**required**):

- Jacobs, Alan M. 2009. "How Do Ideas Matter? Mental Models and Attention in German Pension Politics." *Comparative Political Studies* 42 (2):252-79.
- Miguel, E., 2004. "Tribe or nation? Nation building and public goods in Kenya versus Tanzania." *World Politics*, 56(03), pp. 328-362.

Theoretical readings (optional):

- Brady, Henry E. 2010. "Data-Set Observations versus Causal-Process Observations: The 2000 U.S. Presidential Election." In Henry E. Brady and David Collier, eds., *Rethinking Social Inquiry*, 2nd ed. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield.

Week 9. Operationalization and Measurement

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, Chapters 4, 10 and 11.
- Shively, W.P., 2016. *The craft of political research*. Routledge, Chapters 4-5.

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- Gerring, J., 2012. *Social science methodology: A unified framework*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 7.
- Adcock, R. and Collier, D. 2001. "Measurement validity: A shared standard for qualitative and quantitative research." *American Political Science Review* 95(3), pp. 529-546.
URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0003055401003100>
- Collier, D. and Levitsky, S., 1997. "Democracy with adjectives: Conceptual innovation in comparative research." *World politics*, 49(03), pp. 430-451.

Research examples (**required**):

- Putnam, Robert D., Leonardi, R., and Nanetti, R., 1993. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, Chapter 3.
- McHenry Jr, D. E. 2000. "Quantitative measures of democracy in Africa: an assessment." *Democratization*, 7(2), 168-185. URL: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13510340008403664>
- Bollen, K., 1993. "Liberal democracy: Validity and method factors in cross-national measures." *American Journal of Political Science*, pp.1207-1230. URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2111550>

Audiovisual (optional):

- Lasswell, Harold. 1946. "Despotism." [9:56], available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlwXdOvEPXE>

Week 10. Methods of Data Collection

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, Chapters 8, 12, 19 and 21.

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- Lilleker, D.G., 2003. "Interviewing the political elite: Navigating a potential minefield." *Politics*, 23(3), pp. 207-214.
- Aberbach, J.D. and Rockman, B.A., 2002. "Conducting and coding elite interviews." *Political Science & Politics*, 35(04), pp. 673-676. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1049096502001142>
- Neuendorf, K.A., 2011. "Content analysis. A methodological primer for gender research." *Sex Roles*, 64(3-4), pp. 276-289. URL: <http://link.springer.com.elib.tcd.ie/article/10.1007/s11199-010-9893-0>

Theoretical readings (optional):

- Miller, A.H., Hesli, V.L. and Reisinger, W.M., 1995. "Comparing citizen and elite belief systems in post-Soviet Russia and Ukraine." *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 59(1), pp. 1-40. URL: <http://poq.oxfordjournals.org/content/59/1/1.short>
- Grimmer, J. and Stewart, B.M., 2013. "Text as data: The promise and pitfalls of automatic content analysis methods for political texts." *Political Analysis*, pp. 1-31.
- Lucas, C., Nielsen, R.A., Roberts, M.E., Stewart, B.M., Storer, A. and Tingley, D., 2015. "Computer-assisted text analysis for comparative politics." *Political Analysis*, pp. 1-21.

Research examples (**required**):

- Fenno, R.F., 1977. "US House members in their constituencies: An exploration." *American Political Science Review*, 71(03), pp. 883-917. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0003055400265143>
- King, G., Pan, J. and Roberts, M.E., 2013. "How censorship in China allows government criticism but silences collective expression." *American Political Science Review*, 107(02), pp. 326-343. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0003055413000014>

Week 11. Bias in Measurement and Research

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, Chapter 4.

Theoretical readings (**required**):

- Geddes, B., 1990. "How the cases you choose affect the answers you get: Selection bias in comparative politics." *Political analysis*, 2(1), pp.131-150.
- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 1994. *Designing social inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton university press, section 5.1.
- Lustick, I.S., 1996. "History, historiography, and political science: Multiple historical records and the problem of selection bias." *American Political Science Review*, 90(03), pp. 605-618. URL: <http://dx.doi.org.elib.tcd.ie/10.2307/2082612>
- Nuzzo, R., 2015. "How scientists fool themselves - and how they can stop." *Nature News*, 526(7572), 182. URL: <https://www.nature.com/news/how-scientists-fool-themselves-and-how-they-can-stop-1.18517>

Theoretical readings (optional):

- King, G., Keohane, R.O. and Verba, S., 1994. *Designing social inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton university press, Chapters 5 and 6.

- Loken, E., & Gelman, A. 2017. "Measurement error and the replication crisis." *Science*, 355(6325), 584-585. URL: <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/355/6325/584.summary>

Research examples (required):

- Lazer, D., Kennedy, R., King, G., Vespignani, A., 2014. "The parable of Google Flu: traps in big data analysis." *Science*, 343(6176), 1203-1205. URL: <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/343/6176/1203>
- The Conversation (22 April 2013) "The Reinhart-Rogoff error - or how not to Excel at economics", available at: <http://theconversation.com/the-reinhart-rogooff-error-or-how-not-to-excel-at-economics-13646>
- Gelman, A. (4 January 2017) "The Bad Research Behind the Bogus Claim That North Carolina Is No Longer a Democracy" Slate. URL: http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/politics/2017/01/the_bogus_claim_that_north_carolina_is_no_longer_a_democracy.html
- The Economist (19 October 2013) "How science goes wrong." URL: <http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21588069-scientific-research-has-changed-world-now-it-needs-change-itself-how-science-goes-wrong>
- Prosser, J., Mellon, C., 2015. "Why did the polls go wrong?" URL: <https://www.britishelectionstudy.com/bes-resources/why-did-the-polls-go-wrong-by-jon-mellon-and-chris-prosser/#.XXVd7yhKjIU>

Audiovisual (optional):

- Planet Money (15 January 2016) "The Experiment Experiment." [Podcast, 20:43] URL: <http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2016/01/15/463237871/episode-677-the-experiment-experiment>

Week 12. Writing the Research Proposal

Introductory readings (optional):

- Manheim, J.B., Rich, R.C., Willnat, L., Brians, C.L. and Babb, J., 2012. *Empirical political analysis*. Pearson Higher Ed, Chapter 24.

Theoretical readings (required):

- APSA Committee on Publications, 2018. Style Manual for Political Science. URL: <https://mk0apsaconnectbv6p6.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/43/2018/11/Style-Manual-for-Political-Science-2018.pdf>
- King, G., 1995. "Replication, replication." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 28(03), pp. 444-452. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2307/420301>