

POP77011 — Research Design for the Social Sciences

Module Information	
Module Code	POP77011
Module Title	Research Design for the Social Sciences
Department	Political Science
Module Personnel	Dr. Asli Ceren Cinar
Academic Year	2026-2027
Credit Weighting	10 Credits
Semester	Semester 1
Contact Hours	TBC

Module Content	
Module Description	This module offers an introduction to the scientific inquiry of the social world. Students will learn how to identify compelling research questions and how to design a study that contributes to existing scholarship. We will cover the core elements of research design and discuss various methodological approaches used in contemporary social science research. The emphasis of the module will be on developing novel, falsifiable and empirically testable explanations of social phenomena.
Module Learning Aims	
Learning Outcomes	By the end of the module, students are expected to: 1. Gain a better understanding of the research process and challenges associated with conducting social science research. 2. Be familiar with various research methods. 3. Learn how to formulate research questions and hypotheses, and choose appropriate research design and data sources to test their hypotheses. 4. Develop skills essential to conduct high-quality research in the field of social sciences.
Indicative Reading / Resources	The main texts for this module are:

Module Content

	• Toshkov, D. (2016). Research design in political science. Macmillan International Higher Education. • King, G., Keohane, R.O., Verba, S. 1994. Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research. Princeton University Press • Johnson, Janet Buttolph, Reynolds, H.T., and Mycoff, Jason D. 2015. Political Science Research Methods. CQ Press.
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Assessment

Assessment Components	10% Participation 5% Research Question 10% Literature Review 15% Empirical Strategy 60% Final Proposal
Assessment Details	

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Any other information	