I. Course Description
This course engages with qualitative approaches of research in political science. It introduces students to concepts, methods, and processes of qualitative research preparing them with a general knowledge about reading and writing methodologically. The course contains both theoretical and empirical issues of qualitative research including the philosophy of social science, the nature and structure of argument, theory-building, research design, case selection, and different forms of empirical research. The course begins with theoretical debates on research in political science and moves to empirical and practical methods and technics of data collection and analysis. In this course, students will learn:

- theoretical debates on research and research methods in political science
- principles and ethics of research
- technics and methods of qualitative research
- to assess scholarly texts methodologically and critique them
- to identify different components of a research
- design research and write paper

At the end of the course, students are expected to express a general understanding of qualitative research methods in political science and be able to use those methods in writing papers.

II. Course Textbook

The required reading is available at the Carleton University Book Store. Other readings are available electronically on the Carleton University Library website and other websites.
III. Course Evaluation
Course evaluation include three assignments, tutorial attendance and participation, and final exam grades and will be calculated on the following basis:

A) Tutorial Attendance and Participation (15%)
All tutorials.
Tutorial participation is a critical component of this course. Tutorials are structured in a “seminar” format and, therefore, it is expected that every student comes prepared to engage in class discussion. Participation should be constructive, critical, and respectful. Both the quality and quantity of your participation will be taken into account.

B. Assignment 1, Argument (10%)
Due September 28.
The purpose of this assignment is to test students’ ability in identifying, evaluating and critiquing different components of an argument. This assignment should be 2 pages (double-spaced in 12-point font).

C. Assignment 2, Concept (15%)
Due November 2.
This assignment tests students’ ability in applying primary research methods for analyzing a political science concept. Students will select a concept, define and operationalize it, and analyze it by reviewing at least 3 scholarly sources including journal articles and books. This assignment should not exceed 3-4 pages (double-spaced in 12-point font).

D. Assignment 3, Literature Review (25%)
Due November 30.
This assignment requires students to review 3 journal articles and 3 opinion pieces from newspapers on a specific political issue and design a research paper which should not exceed 8-10 pages (double-spaced in 12-point font). Students are expected to apply textual analysis skills to review and analyze texts. The purpose of this assignment is to test students’ ability in reviewing, comparing, evaluating, and critiquing academic and public texts on a political issue or problem.

E. Final Exam (35%)
TBA.

F. Late Submission Policy
Assignments are due online and must be submitted to CULearn on due deadline. E-mailed assignments will not be accepted. Late submissions will be penalized on a daily basis (i.e. 5% of the overall grade for the assignment per day) for a maximum of 7 days. Assignments that are submitted after the 7 day will receive a zero. Extensions will be granted on medical basis.
IV. Course Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Tutorial</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 7</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
<td>no tutorial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>Scientific Approach to Political Science</td>
<td>no tutorial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>Theorization &amp; Argument</td>
<td>The Science of Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>Research Question &amp; Hypothesis</td>
<td>Argument</td>
<td>Assignment 1 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Concepts &amp; Operationalization</td>
<td>Research Design</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>Research Ethics in Social Science</td>
<td>Operationalization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>Literature Review &amp; Content Analysis</td>
<td>no Tutorial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 26</td>
<td>Reading Week, no class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 2</td>
<td>Case Study &amp; Comparison</td>
<td>Content Analysis</td>
<td>Assignment 2 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 9</td>
<td>Interview &amp; Focus Group</td>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 16</td>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>Interview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Observation &amp; Field Research</td>
<td>Survey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>Experimental Research &amp; Pre-exam Review</td>
<td>no tutorial</td>
<td>Assignment 3 Due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V. Course Schedule

Lecture 1 (Sept. 7): Course Introduction
Instructor reviews the syllabus, discuss the course content, requirements and evaluations, and answer to questions.

Lecture 2 (Sept. 14): Scientific Approach to Political Science
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapters 1, 2
Optional:

Lecture 3 (Sept. 21): Theorization & Causal Argument
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapter 3
Optional:

Lecture 4 (Sept. 28): Research Question and Hypothesis
Required Reading:
Required: Sandra Halperin and Oliver Heath (2012). Political Research: Methods and Practical Skills. Oxford University Press. Ch. 7 (library reserve)

Lecture 5 (Oct. 5): Concepts and Operationalization
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapters 4, 5.
Optional:

Lecture 6 (Oct. 12): Research Ethics in Social Sciences
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapter 6.
Optional:

Lecture 7 (Oct. 19): Literature Review and Textual Analysis
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapters, 12, 13.
Optional:

Oct. 26: Fall Reading Week, no class

Lecture 8 (Nov. 2): Case Study and Comparison
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapters, 7, 8.
Optional:

Lecture 9 (Nov. 9): Interview and Focus Group
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapters 9.
Optional:

Lecture 10 (Nov. 16): Survey Research
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapter 8, 10.
Optional:

Lecture 11 (Nov. 23): Observation and Field Research
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapter 9.

Lecture 12 (Nov. 30): Experimental Research & Exam Review
Required Reading:
Berdahl and Archer, Chapter 11 & Instructor will review the course, discuss the final exam and answers questions.

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**Academic Accommodations**

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

**Religious obligation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf
Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."
Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading
Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>C</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>53-56</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50-52</td>
<td>D-</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approval of final grades
Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
Carleton E-mail Accounts

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society

"The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/ and our website https://carletonpss.com/, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

Official Course Outline

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.