

Carleton University
Department of Political Science
<https://carleton.ca/polisci/>

Late Summer 2020

PSCI 2702 A
Quantitative Research Methods in Political Science
Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:35 – 5:25 p.m.
Online Course

Instructor: Dr. Said Yaqub Ibrahim
Office: Virtual Office Hour; Tuesday 1:00 – 2:00 PM
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Course Description

This course introduces students to quantitative research methods and skills of producing and analyzing statistical results. The course has three primary objectives: to explain the goals of quantitative research in social sciences; to provide students with skills of conducting their own quantitative research; and to develop students' skills in comprehending and evaluating statistical results. By the end of the course, students will learn to run *Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS)*; produce, translate, and evaluate statistical results. The course is designed to teach students the statistical techniques from scratch and, therefore, no previous experience of using SPSS or related software is expected.

Course Format

This course is taught online and synchronously. Every class includes a two-hour online lecture through the BigBlueButton (BBB) learning platform with a break in between and a fifty-minute lab. In the first part, the instructor will give an online lecture with slides delivered through the BBB. The instructor will create the BBB session on cuLearn before class, and students can join by clicking on the BBB session every Tuesday & Thursday from 2:35 to 4:25. The second part of the class will include an online lab which allows students to exercise SPSS and produce statistical results. The instructor will post the lab instructions on CuLearn page. For a brief overview of BBB, students are recommended to watch the following tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYYnryIMOUw>

Access to SPSS

For off-campus access to SPSS software click the link below and follow the instructions.
<https://i.carleton.ca/spss/>

Required Text

Michael Haan, & Jenny Godley. (2017). *An Introduction to Statistics for Canadian Social Scientists*, Third Edition. New York: Oxford University Press.

Electronic and hard copies of the textbook is available for purchase at University Book Store. You can order it through the bookstore's website www.carletonshop.ca

Evaluation

Course evaluation includes three assignments and final exam grades and will be calculated on the following basis:

Assignment	% Final Grade	Due Date
Measure of Central Tendency	10%	July 21
Bivariate Analysis	20%	August 4
Regression	30%	August 13
Final Exam	40%	To be scheduled during the regular exam period

Policies and Procedures

- A. Assignment Instruction:** All assignments are due electronically to be submitted in cuLearn. A detailed instruction regarding each assignment will be posted in cuLearn before the assignment's due date.
- B. Late Submission Policy:** Assignments are due as hardcopy in class. E-mailed assignments will not be accepted. Late submissions will be penalized on a daily basis (i.e. 3% 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 only in cases of special circumstances based on verifiable documentation.
- C. Plagiarism:** Two or more students are not permitted to submit the same work for evaluation. Submitting the same assignment as another student will be considered plagiarism. If you have any question or concern regarding *plagiarism*, please contact the instructor.

Course Schedule

Date	Lecture Topic	Reading	Lab
July 2	Introduction to Course	Chapter 1	<i>No Lab</i>
July 7	Variables, Measurement & Questionnaire	Chapters 2	Intro to Datasets
July 9	Recoding & Intro to Descriptive Statistics	Chapters 3-4	Recoding & Frequency
July 14	Descriptive Statistics II	Chapters 5-7	Measure of Central Tendency
July 16	Statistical Inference I	Chapters 8-10	One-Sample Test
July 21	Statistical Inference II	Chapter 11	Independent-Sample Test
July 23	Bivariate Analysis (Correlations) I: Nominal Variables	Chapter 12	Cross-tabulation for Nominal Variables
July 28	Bivariate Analysis II: Ordinal Variables	Chapter 13	Cross-tabulation for Ordinal Variables
July 30	Bivariate Analysis III: Interval Variables	Chapter 14	Chi-Square Test
August 4	Multivariate Analysis & Regression	Chapter 16	Bivariate Regression
August 6	Regression II	Chapter 17-18	Multivariate Regression
August 11	Regression II Continued	-	<i>No Lab</i>
August 13	Course Overview and Final Exam Discussion	-	<i>No Lab</i>

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and 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 me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

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.

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:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

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. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, 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 numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.