



Department of Social and Political Sciences
Seminar Fall 2014

Introduction to Qualitative Methods

Pepper D. Culpepper and Ulrich Krotz

Tuesdays 3:00 PM-5:00 PM, Badia Seminar Room 2

Registration with Anne Leinonen (anne.leinonen@eui.eu)

Description

The seminar provides an introduction to the variety of qualitative methodologies used in social scientific research. We begin by asking about the different questions that might be posed in research and then we move to different techniques that can shed light on these questions.

Over the course of the seminar students must submit three 500-word response papers to the readings for a given session and post that paper on the course website the night before class. These response papers are fundamental for the holding of a good discussion of the materials, as is a thorough reading of the assigned readings.

This course is mandatory for all first year students in SPS. Because this makes it a large course, we cannot allow visiting students to register for the class. If you want to write a term paper for this class as part of your general term paper requirements, you need to make significant use of the reading and topics on the syllabus and make a contribution to the discussion on qualitative methods (in other words, a draft of your prospectus is not an acceptable term paper). Those who wish to write a term paper should submit it to me by email and in paper copy, with a cc to Anne Leinonen.

[Note: The first class takes place on October 14, not October 7]

Tuesday October 14, 2014

Introduction

Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, 1994, *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, Chapter 1.

Henry E. Brady, 2004, "Doing Good and Doing Better: How Far Does the Quantitative Template Get Us." Chapter 3 in Brady and Collier, *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*, New York: Rowman and Littlefield.

Goldthorpe, John H., 2001, "Causation, Statistics, and Sociology," *European Sociological Review* Vol.17, N° 1 (2001): 1-10, [first 10 pages only]

Tuesday October 21, 2014

How to use Interpretation in Social Science

John R. Searle. 1995. *The Construction of Social Reality*. New York: The Free Press, pp.7-29.

Taylor, Charles. 1994. "Interpretation and the Sciences of Man." Reprinted in Rabinow and Sullivan, *A Second Look*, pp. 33-81.

Nina Tannenwald. 1999. "The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Non-Use." *International Organization*, 53:3, pp 433-468.

Tuesday October 28, 2014

How to Begin: From Research Question to Research Design

Peter Katzenstein, pp. 10-15 in "The Role of Theory in Comparative Politics: A Symposium," *World Politics* 48 (October 1995).

Alexander L. George and Andrew Bennett, chapters 3-4 of *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences*, pp. 67-88.

Tuesday November 4, 2014

How to Operationalize Concepts: The Example of Democracy

Adcock, Robert and David Collier, "Measurement Validity: A Shared Standard for Qualitative and Quantitative Research", in *American Political Science Review* 95, 2001, pp. 529-546.

Munck, Gerardo L., and Jay Verkuilen, "Measuring Democracy: Evaluating Alternative Indices," *Comparative Political Studies* 35:1 (February 2002): 5-34.

Bowman, Kirk, Fabrice Lehoucq, and James Mahoney, "Measuring Political Democracy: Case Expertise, Data Adequacy, and Central America," *Comparative Political Studies* 38:8 (October 2005): 939-970.

Tuesday November 11, 2014

How to Use Process Tracing in Case Studies

Hall, Peter, "Aligning Ontology and Methodology in Comparative Politics." In J. Mahoney and D. Rueschemeyer (eds.). *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*. New York, Cambridge University Press, 2003, pp. 373-404.

Alexander L. George and Andrew Bennett, chapters 5-6 of *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences*, pp. 89-124.

Alan Jacobs and Macartan Humphreys, "Mixing Methods? A Bayesian Unification of Quantitative and Qualitative Methods." Unpublished Manuscript.

Tuesday November 18, 2014

How to Select Cases

John Gerring, 2007. *Case Study Research: Principles and Practices*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, ch 5, pp. 86-150.

James Mahoney and Gary Goertz, "The Possibility Principle: Choosing Negative Cases in Comparative Research," *American Political Science Review* 98 (November 2004): 653-70.

Lieberman, Evan, "Nested Analysis as a Mixed Method Strategy for Comparative Research," *American Political Science Review*, 99, 2005, 435-52.

Tuesday November 25, 2013

How to do Ethnography and How We Learn From It

Geertz, Clifford. 1979/2000. "Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight." In Lane Crothers and Charles Lockhart (eds), *Culture and Politics: A Reader* (New York: St. Martin's). Reprinted:
<http://rfrost.people.si.umich.edu/courses/MatCult/content/Geertz.pdf>

Geertz, Clifford. 1973. "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture." In *The Interpretation of Cultures* (New York: Basic Books).

Wedeen, Lisa. 2010. "Reflections on Ethnographic Work in Political Science." *Annual Review of Political Science* 13, 255-72.

Kathryn Edin and Maria Kefalas, *Promises I can keep: Why Poor Women put Motherhood before Marriage*, University of California Press, 2005, Introduction (pp. 1-26) and Appendices A and B (pp. 225-247).

Tuesday December 2, 2014

How to Interview

Weiss, Robert, *Learning from Strangers*, New York, Free Press, 1994, chapter 4.

Peabody, Robert L. et al. 1990. "Interviewing Political Elites." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 23, 451-55.

Hammer, Dean and Aaron Wildavsky. 1989. "The Open-Ended, Semi-Structured Interview: An (Almost) Operational Guide." In Aaron Wildavsky, *Craftways: On the Organization of Scholarly Work* (New Brunswick: Transaction).

Tuesday December 9, 2014

How to Analyze Discourse and Content

Herrera, Yoshiko M. and Braumoeller, Bear F. 2004. "Symposium, Discourse and Content Analysis." *Qualitative Methods Newsletter* (Spring) pp. 15-39.

Milliken, Jennifer. 1999. "The Study of Discourse in International Relations: A Critique of Research and Methods." *European Journal of International Relations* 5:2 (June) 225-54.

Culpepper, Pepper D., Chapter 4 of *Quiet Politics and Business Power: Corporate Control in Europe and Japan*, Cambridge University Press 2011, pp. 82-114 (pay particular attention to the section on "The Framing of Hostile Takeover Politics in the Netherlands" and to the appendix to the chapter).

Tuesday December 16, 2014

How to Write a Prospectus, an Article, or a Dissertation

Gerardo Munck and Richard Snyder, *Passion, Craft and Method in Comparative Politics*, 2007, pp. 370-371 (James Scott on writing).

Peter A. Hall, "Helpful Hints for Writing Dissertations in Comparative Politics," *PS: Political Science and Politics* 23 (4): 596-598, December 1990.

Jonathan Kirshner, "Alfred Hitchcock and the Art of Research," *PS: Political Science and Politics* 29 (3): 511-513, September 1996.

Jeffrey Knopf, 2006, "Doing a Literature Review," *PS: Political Science and Politics*, pp. 127-132.

Barry Weingast, 2010. "Structuring your Paper (Caltech Rules)." Mimeo, Stanford University. Available at <http://www.stanford.edu/group/polisci/faculty/weingast/CALTECHRUL100427printversion.pdf>.

Please note that the first term of the EUI does not end until December 19. Attendance at the session on December 16 is expected. Having made travel plans for earlier dates does not constitute an excused absence.