Sociology 538/638
INTEGRATING QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE METHODS
Winter 2018
Mondays 2:00-4:50
Cramer 265

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Office: Cramer 217 R
Office hours: Mondays 1:00-2:00pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will evaluate a variety of approaches to mixed-method research in the social sciences. Each student will complete an individual mixed-methods project on the topic of their choice.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

See additional guidelines for assignments attached to the syllabus.

Class preparation and participation (20 points): Students are responsible for coming to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings and course assignments. Students are expected to participate in the conversation with thoughtful comments and questions. Being absent from more than one class will negatively affect your course grade.

Discussion questions (16 points): Each student will write three discussion questions for eight class meetings. Each individual question may focus on one reading or may make comparisons across readings for that week. Discussion question are due by 9:00am on the day of the class meeting via D2L. Discussion questions will be accepted between 9:00am and 2:00pm on the day they are due for half credit. Discussion questions will not be accepted after 2:00pm.

Research design (4 points): Identify your research questions, quantitative data, qualitative data, and approach to mixed methods. Assignments may require revision before final approval to go forward with the project (no point penalty if a revision is needed).

Methods section (10 points): Expand the information in your research design assignment into a narrative. Write up the methods for your research project as you would for a peer reviewed journal article. Assignments may require revision before final approval to go forward with the project (no point penalty if a revision is needed).

Draft PowerPoint slides (30 points): You will submit five working drafts of your PowerPoint presentation. Submit first drafts of (1) intro/lit review, research questions, and references (5 points); (2) add methods (5 points); (3) add qualitative findings (5 points); (4) add quantitative findings (5 points); and (5) first full draft: title, intro/lit review, research questions, methods, qualitative and quantitative findings, discussion, title, references (10 points). Guidelines for the PowerPoint presentations are attached to the syllabus.
Final PowerPoint and presentation (20 points): Create and deliver a 12-15 minute PowerPoint presentation on the research project. Final presentations will be delivered in class during week 10 and finals week. The grade will include your own presentation as well as participation in Q&A of other students’ presentations.

COURSE OUTLINE

Note: All readings must be completed prior to class. Three discussion questions must be submitted for the eight class meetings with discussion questions assigned. Discussion questions are due by 9:00am on the day of the class meeting. Discussion questions submitted between 9:00am and 2:00pm will earn half credit. Discussion questions will not be accepted after 2:00pm

**Week 1: January 7**

Reading and assignments due
- Morgan, David L. 2014. “Chapter 1” Pp 3-23 in *Integrating Qualitative and Quantitative Methods: A Pragmatic Approach*. Sage. [LINK](link to PSU course e-reserves; search for “Soc 538/638” and navigate to our course e-reserve folder)
- Discussion questions due Monday January 7 by 9am via D2L

**Week 2: January 14**

Reading and assignments due
- Research design assignment due Sunday January 13 by midnight via D2L
- Discussion questions due Monday January 14 by 9am via D2L
Optional reading (These readings are recommended as a starting place for students conducting content analyses of news media)


**Week 3: January 21 NO CLASS**

Reading and assignments due

- Research design assignment revision (if required) due Sunday January 20 by midnight via D2L
- Identify and skim 10-20 peer-reviewed articles for your lit review
- PP 1: First draft of intro/lit review, research questions, and references due Sunday January 20 by midnight via D2L
- No discussion questions for this week

**Week 4: January 28**

Reading and assignments due

- Discussion questions due Monday by 9am via D2L

**Week 5: February 4**

Reading and assignments due

- Methods section assignment revision (if required) due Sunday February 3 by midnight via D2L
- PP 2: Add first draft of methods slides due Sunday February 3 by midnight via D2L
- Watch the instructional videos available at [http://www.dedoose.com/resources/#](http://www.dedoose.com/resources/#) (watch the following videos: introduction, code setup, descriptors, documents, document excerpting, and analysis) by Monday at 2pm (to be discussed in class)
- Read through all cases (e.g. interview transcripts, news articles) in your qualitative data set by Monday at 2pm (to be discussed in class)
- No discussion questions for this week
**Week 6: February 11**

Reading and assignments due
- Begin qualitative and quantitative analysis
- Discussion questions Monday by 9am via D2L

**Week 7: February 18**

Reading and assignments due
- PP 3: Add first draft of qualitative findings slides due Sunday February 17 by midnight via D2L
- Discussion questions due Monday by 9am via D2L

**Week 8: February 25**

Reading and assignments due
- Quantitative coding (if relevant): develop a code book (with descriptions of each code and rules for inclusion/exclusion)
- Quantitative data analysis: create frequencies (one table) plus cross-tabs, correlation and/or multivariate analysis (at least one figure or table)
- PP 4: Add first draft of quantitative findings slides due Sunday March 3 at midnight via D2L
- Discussion questions due Monday by 9am via D2L
Week 9: March 4

Reading and assignments due
- PP 5: First full draft (title, intro/lit review, research questions, methods, qualitative and quantitative findings, discussion, title, references) due Sunday March 3 by midnight via D2L
- Warner, Benjamin P. 2017. “Mixed-Methods Approaches to Understanding Climate Change Risks to Agrarian-Based Livelihoods” SAGE Research Methods Cases [LINK]
- Discussion questions due Monday by 9am via D2L

Week 10: March 11

Reading and assignments due
- Round 1 Final PP due Monday March 11 by 2pm via D2L
- Discussion questions due Monday by 9am via D2L

Finals week: Monday March 18 2:00-4:00

Assignment due
- Round 2 Final PP due Monday March 18 by 2pm via D2L
- Round 2 final presentations in class Monday March 18 2:00-4:00
GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH DESIGN ASSIGNMENT

TASK

Identify your research questions, quantitative data, qualitative data, and approach to mixed methods. Assignments may require revision before final approval to go forward with the project (no point penalty if a revision is needed).

DATA SOURCES

If you have access to qualitative and quantitative data that would be appropriate for a mixed-methods project, you are encouraged to use it for this course! Alternately, if you are currently working with either quantitative or qualitative data, be creative about how you might find complementary data. If you do not currently have either qualitative or quantitative data sets at the start of the course, you will need to create them. You can mix and match any of the types of data shown in the table below (or consult with me for alternative project ideas).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantitative data</th>
<th>Qualitative data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>News articles (100+)</td>
<td>News articles (40-50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary survey data (e.g. General Social Survey) or publicly available GIS data</td>
<td>Publicly available texts (e.g. websites, tweets, public records)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data from surveys or experiments or GIS data you have previously collected or have access to</td>
<td>Data from interviews, focus groups, and/or ethnographic research that you have previously collected or have access to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMPONENTS

Provide the following information (in bullet point form):

1. Research questions
2. Quantitative data: Method and sample (criteria for inclusion, number of cases)
3. Quantitative data: Method and sample (criteria for inclusion, number of cases)
4. Approach to mixed methods (convergent/additional/sequential and priority of methods)

Note: if you are developing a content analysis project for your quantitative and/or qualitative data, you must also provide all the following information about your data:

- Source of the data
- Criteria for inclusion in population: date range, key terms or topic, other criteria for inclusion
- Number of cases in population
- Number of cases in sample
- Sampling strategy (random, stratified, the population is the sample)
GUIDELINES FOR METHODS SECTION ASSIGNMENT

TASK

Expand the information in your research design assignment into a narrative. Write up the methods for your research project as you would for a peer reviewed journal article. The methods section should be about 600-900 words. Note: the data analysis subsection is not required for the written methods section assignment, but you should include this information in your PowerPoint presentation (written or oral).

COMPONENTS

Overview of components

1. Introduction and research questions (Give a 2-3 sentences brief introduction to your topic, state your research questions in the form of questions)
2. Quantitative data (see checklist below for you chosen method for information that must be covered)
3. Description of qualitative data collection (see checklist below for you chosen method for information that must be covered)
4. Description of approach to mixed method (convergent/additional/sequential and priority of methods)
5. References (if needed)
6. Appendix (if needed)

Content analysis

Data collection
  - Research method (quantitative content analysis, qualitative content analysis, discourse analysis)
  - Source of the data
  - Criteria for inclusion in population: date range, key terms or topic, other criteria for inclusion
  - Number of cases in population
  - Number of cases in sample
  - Sampling strategy (random, stratified, the population is the sample)
  - Characteristics of the sample relevant for the analysis

Data analysis
  - Approach to data analysis (e.g. inductive, deductive, drawing on previous research or theory)
  - Software (if used)
  - Discussion of codes or themes

Appendix
  - List all cases
Ethnography and participant observation

Data collection
- Research method (e.g. ethnography, participant observation)
- Describe the site or setting (use pseudonym for identifiable locations)
- Criteria and explanation for choosing the setting (specifically in relation to the research question)
- How the researcher entered the site (including gaining permission from gatekeepers if relevant)
- (Approximate) numbers and types of people in the site (note that names will be pseudonyms)
- Time in the setting (date range, number of visits, and/or number of hours)
- How the researcher took jottings/notes in the setting (if at all) and after leaving
- What kind of data was collected (e.g. conversations, behavior)
- The degree the researcher was a participant in the setting
- Any relevant identities of the researcher(s) and how these impacted the research

Data analysis
- Software (if used)
- Approach to data analysis (e.g. inductive, drawing on previous research or theory)
- Discussion of codes or themes

Interviews and focus groups

Data collection
- Research method (e.g. qualitative interviews, semi-structured interview, in-depth interviews, focus groups)
- Criteria for participation (e.g. individual characteristics)
- Access and recruitment
- Sampling strategy (e.g., convenience, random)
- Number of interviews
- Year(s) interviews conducted
- Geographic location
- Type of space where interviews were conducted
- Average length (and/or range) of interviews
- State interviews will be audiotaped and transcribed
- Any relevant identities of the researcher(s) and how these impacted the research
- Demographics and other individual characteristics of participants relevant for the analysis (state that pseudonyms are used); use a demographics table if needed

Data analysis
- Software (if used)
- Approach to data analysis (e.g. inductive, drawing on previous research or theory)
- Topics addressed in interviews and/or examples of questions
- Discussion of codes or themes

Appendix
- Interview guide
Primary quantitative data

Data collection
- Research method (e.g. survey, experiment) and modality (e.g. telephone, face-to-face)
- Criteria for participation (e.g. individual characteristics)
- Access and recruitment
- Sampling strategy (e.g., convenience, random)
- Number of respondents
- Year(s) data gathered
- Geographic location
- Average length (and/or range) of surveys
- Any relevant identities of the researcher(s) and how these impacted the research

Data analysis
- Software (if used)
- Approach to data analysis (e.g. bivariate analysis, OLS regression, logistic regression)
- Measures (independent, dependent, control variables), including survey question wording (as relevant)
- Demographics and other individual characteristics of participants relevant for the analysis

Secondary quantitative data

Data collection
- Research method (e.g. secondary analysis of survey data)
- Source of the data and description of the dataset (see above checklist for primary quantitative data)

Data analysis
- Software (if used)
- Approach to data analysis (e.g. bivariate analysis, OLS regression, logistic regression)
- Measures (independent, dependent, control variables), including survey question wording (as relevant)
- Demographics and other individual characteristics relevant for the analysis
GUIDELINES FOR THE MIXED METHODS POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

TASK

Create and deliver a 12-15 minute PowerPoint presentation on the research project.

COMPONENTS

Title slide (1 slide)
- Title of presentation
- Author and affiliation

Introduction and literature review (2-4 slides)
- Introduction to the topic and statement of the problem
- Key theoretical concepts and empirical findings from previous scholarship that set up research questions
- Identify what is already known and what gap your study is filling (may be verbal)

Research questions (1 slide)
- Research questions to be answered with quantitative and qualitative data

Methods (2-3 slides)
- Discussion of quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis
- Discussion of mixed methods analytical approach

Results (6-10 slides)
- Qualitative data: 2-4 themes illustrated with quotes and descriptive examples (and counter-examples) from your data (discussion of overall themes and/or some examples may be verbal)
- Quantitative data: at least one frequency table (optional); at least one figure (with analysis of two variables), crosstab, correlation, or regression table
- Overall cohesive argument that addresses the research question(s) (may be verbal)

Discussion (1-2 slides)
- Brief summary of findings and overall argument
- Implications of findings for theory, policy, and/or future research

Title slide (1 slide)
- Repeat title slide from start of presentation (end here for Q&A)

References (1 slide)
- List all sources cited in the presentation (not shown in presentation)

Additional notes
- For the oral presentation, you will have 12-15 minutes to present. We will keep time and you will be cut off at 15 minutes. Be sure to practice!
- Do not read text from slides aloud (including full text of quotes); let the audience read the text on the slides.
- You may use presentation notes, but do not read from your notes.
- No more than 20 slides max (not including titles and references); 12-15 slides are better.
- Font should be at least size 24 (if using Times New Roman); text in tables can be smaller.
- Quotes from news articles should include the newspaper title and date on the slide.
GUIDELINES FOR A MIXED METHODS SOCIAL SCIENCE MANUSCRIPT (7000-9000 WORDS)

If you would like to develop your project into a peer-reviewed manuscript after the term is over, here are some guidelines on how to write a manuscript.

Abstract: 150-200 words*
- Objective, methods, results, conclusion

Introduction: 600-900 words (approximately 1-2 double spaced pages)
- Introduction of key theoretical concepts and empirical findings from previous scholarship
- Research questions
- Outline of argument

Literature review: 1200-1800 words (approximately 4-6 double spaced pages)
- Discussion of the literature related to your study
- Identify what is already known and what gap your study is filling

Methods: 600-900 words (approximately 2-3 double spaced pages)*
- Discussion of quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis
- Discussion of mixed methods analytical approach

Results: 3000-3600 words (approximately 10-12 double spaced pages)
- Present quantitative data using appropriate tables and/or figures and text
- Present qualitative data using themes illustrated with quotes and descriptive examples (and counter-examples) from your data
- Overall cohesive argument

Discussion: 600-900 words (approximately 2-3 double spaced pages)
- Brief summary of findings and overall argument
- Implications of findings for theory, policy, and/or future research

References: variable word count and page length*
- List all sources cited in the text

Appendix
- List all cases (content analysis only)

*Sections required for this course
POLICIES

*Required Readings:* Links to the required readings available through the PSU library are included in the syllabus. If you cannot access a reading through the link, you are responsible for navigating to the reading from the PSU library homepage.

*D2L:* The syllabus and other course materials will be posted on D2L. All assignments will be submitted via D2L (no hard copies). Points earned and written feedback for all assignments will be posted on D2L.

*Email:* I will regularly communicate with students individually and as a class via email. My emails will be sent to your PSU email. It is your responsibility to check your PSU email daily during the school week and respond in a timely manner. In emails to me, please put the title of the course in the subject line and sign your emails using your first and last name. Use the email address on the first page of the syllabus. I will generally respond to email within 24 hours. Emails sent after 5:00pm on Friday will generally be answered by 5:00pm on Monday.

*Late Assignments:* Assignments will be marked down 10% per day late and will not be accepted after seven days. Final presentations will not be accepted late.

*Academic honesty:* You are expected to demonstrate complete academic honesty. Please refer to the Student Conduct Code for more detailed information on PSU policies. Cheating or plagiarizing will result in failing the assignment and will be reported. If you use a direct quote (i.e. someone else’s written or spoken words), you must include it in quotation marks. Any time you take a direct quote, as well as when you summarize or paraphrase an idea from another person, you must cite the source and include a references section at the end of the paper. Failure to cite your sources, whether intentional or not, is plagiarism. Instances of plagiarism will result in failing the assignment, and possibly the course, and will be reported.

*Access and inclusion for students with disabilities:* If any aspects of instruction or course design result in barriers to your inclusion or learning, please notify me. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) provides reasonable accommodations for students who encounter barriers in the learning environment. If you have, or think you may have, a disability that may affect your work in this class and feel you need accommodations, contact the DRC to schedule an appointment and initiate a conversation about reasonable accommodations. The DRC is located in 116 Smith Memorial Student Union, 503-725-4150, drc@pdx.edu, http://www.pdx.edu/drc. If you already have accommodations, please contact me to make sure that I have received a faculty notification letter and to discuss your accommodations.

*Title IX reporting:* As a member of the university community, I have the responsibility to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination. If you would rather share information about sexual harassment, sexual violence or discrimination to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find a list of those individuals at http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/get-help or you may call a confidential IPV Advocate at 503-725-5672.