



10,402: Method Seminar

Subject information

ECTS-Credits: 6

Attached courses

Timetable	Language	Lecturer
10,402,1.00 Method Seminar	English	Benesch Christine , Caramani Daniele , Davis James W.

Course information

Course prerequisites

Solid political science, economics and juridical background.

Course content

This is an advanced course on social science methods and research design. The objective is to sensitize doctoral students to the need for methodological sophistication in pursuit of warranted knowledge of social behavior. Although not exhaustive, the course introduces students to some of the most important methods of analysis. The strengths and weaknesses of various methods are discussed with an aim to identifying the most appropriate method for any given research question.

Course structure

The course is broken down into three related parts. The first deals with case study methods and qualitative analysis. The second introduces econometric and regression analysis. Finally, students will familiarize themselves with the comparative method.

Course literature

A syllabus of required readings is available.

Students should have read one of the following prior to the first session of class:

- Brady, H. and D. Collier (eds.) (2006). *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*. Lanham, MD: Roman & Littlefield
- King, G., Keohane, R. and Verba, S. (1994). *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Davis, J.W. (2005). *Terms of Inquiry: On the Theory and Practice of Political Science*. Baltimore: the Johns Hopkins University Press.

Course additional information

Not applicable.

Information about the Examination

Examination type

decentral - examination paper written at home (individually) (100%)

Comment: Three papers, one on each method

Examination aids

no regulation necessary

No rules for examination aids are required for this examination.

- For written examinations at home (term paper), courses without credits, etc., no specific rules for examination aids are required.
- The regulations of the University of St. Gallen and the rules of academic work (sources and aids must always be identified) are applicable in a subsidiary fashion.
- All written work must be accompanied by a declaration of authorship.

Question language: **English**

Answer language: **English**

Examination content

The three term papers criticize an empirical application of each of the three approaches dealt with in the three modules: case studies, regression analysis, comparative method.

Exam-relevant literature

The reading list is available in the syllabus.

Attention please:

We would like to point out to you that this fact sheet has absolute priority over other information such as StudyNet, faculty members' personal databases, information provided in lectures, etc.

When will the fact sheets become binding?

Information about courses and examination type (central/decentral and grading form): from the start of the bidding process on 23 August 2012

Information about decentral examinations (examination aids, examination content, exam-relevant literature): after the 4th semester week on 15 October 2012

Information about central examinations (examination aids, examination content, exam-relevant literature): from the start of the enrolment period for the examinations on 5 November 2012

Please look at the fact sheet once more after these deadlines have expired.