2013 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research

Methodological Issues in Quantitative Research on Race and Ethnicity
“MIQRRE 2013”

Instructor: Abigail A. Sewell
Indiana University
Office: TBD
Hours: 10:00-11:00 M-F

TA: Elizabeth Martinez
Indiana University
Office: TBD
Hours: TBD

Class Time: 1:00-3:00 M-F
Class Location: TBD

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

This workshop examines conceptualizations of race and ethnicity and the concomitant issues related to the quantitative analysis of race, ethnicity, and racial/ethnic inequality. The course features research design and analytical issues in the measurement of racial and ethnic populations in the United States. This ICPSR workshop is a core component of a new National Consortium for Diversity Research & Policy Initiative based on collaboration between the National Center for Institutional Diversity and the Institute for Social Research.

The workshop is designed for faculty and research professionals from academia, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies, including advanced social science graduate students who are familiar with data analysis and quantitative research. Individuals with a substantive interest in policy-relevant and cross-discipline social science research on race, ethnicity, and diversity will benefit by their participation in this workshop.

Participants should have had at least one course in statistics, as well as a course on research methods/design. The content of the course is geared towards persons who have a background in multiple regression. Individuals lacking this prior experience will face difficulties in comprehending many of the presentations. Participants are encouraged to enroll in other appropriate ICPSR Summer Program statistics course(s) while taking this workshop.

Participants obtain hands-on experience in data analysis through four lab exercises. Participants have the option to design, complete, and submit a paper based on a quantitative research project using a dataset of their choice.

For those taking the course for academic credit, this course counts for two (2) credits.
OVERVIEW OF COURSE CONTENT

The first week focuses on research design issues. Lectures will review research designs and sampling strategies that have been used in quantitative research on race and ethnicity. Lectures will also discuss the theoretical agendas, cross-cultural challenges, conceptual problems, and policy disputes at issue in contemporary quantitative research on race and ethnicity. The lab exercise for the first week will focus on the racialization process.

The second week focuses on approaching race and ethnicity as latent ("left-hand side") variables. Lectures will address methodological issues related to reliable and valid measurements of race and ethnicity, multidimensional constructions of these concepts, and the categorization of race and ethnicity. The lab exercise for the second week will focus on definitions of race and ethnicity.

The third week focuses on approaching race and ethnicity as manifest ("right-hand side") variables. Lectures will address analytical models that attend to the relationships among race, ethnicity, and social inequality – including group comparison models, mediation-moderation models, intersectionality models. The lab exercise for the third week will focus on methods for assessing racial/ethnic group differences.

The fourth week focuses on analytical issues related to making causal inferences about race and ethnicity. Lectures will address the challenges of experimental designs, longitudinal analysis, organizational effects, counterfactual models, and mixed methods. The lab exercise for the fourth week will focus on modeling the causality of racial/ethnic phenomenon.

COURSE GRADING

Lab Exercises 100%
Lab 1 10%
Lab 2 20%
Lab 3 30% (includes writing component)
Lab 4 40% (includes writing component)

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE

Participation is encouraged. Attendance is required.

You are expected to be in class, on time, every day.

Roll call will be taken.

If you are not in your seat by the time your name is called, you will be considered late. After the second tardy mark, there will be a three (3) percent reduction in your grade for the course. No exceptions.
REQUIRED READING MATERIALS

The reading for this course is extensive. To facilitate full coverage of the readings, participants will be broken up into groups of two and assigned a portion of the readings for each lecture.

Books

Required


Optional


Articles

See Outline of Course Reading Content. All required articles can be found on the C-Tools site, which will be in operation during the MIQRRE workshop class. This site contains all of the required articles as well as a substantial set of reference readings on race and ethnicity that are not required for the course.

REQUIRED EXERCISES

The exercises for the course consist of lab-based assignments that call on participants to think critically about the ways that researchers analyze the role of race and ethnicity in society. There is an optional lab component of the course once each week. All assignments are to be submitted on CTools by noon on the due date. The due dates for each assignment are listed below. Further instructions for each assignment will be posted on CTools.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lab Exercises</th>
<th>Description of and Deadlines for Course Assignments</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lab 1</strong>  The Social Construction of Race and Ethnicity</td>
<td>Wednesday, June 26, 2013 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lab 2</strong>  The Multidimensionality of Race and Ethnicity</td>
<td>Wednesday, July 3, 2013 noon</td>
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<td><strong>Lab 3</strong>  The Intersectionality Challenge</td>
<td>Thursday, July 11, 2013 noon</td>
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<td><strong>Lab 4</strong>  The Causality of Race and Ethnicity</td>
<td>Friday, July 19, 2013 noon</td>
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OUTLINE OF COURSE READING CONTENT

Week 1: Research Design in Quantitative Research on Race and Ethnicity

Monday, June 24, 2013 – Registration; No Class

Tuesday, June 25, 2013 – Scope of Course; Theoretical Agendas in Measuring Race and Ethnicity

Readings
Knight, Roosa, and Umaña-Taylor. Ch. 1.
Zuberi and Bonilla-Silva. Ch. 2

Wednesday, June 26, 2013 – Conceptual, Cross-Cultural, and Policy Challenges

Readings
Krysan and Lewis. Ch. 2 and 4.

Thursday, June 27, 2013 – Survey Design Issues: (Mis)Classification and OV Bias

Readings


Friday, June 28, 2012 - Sampling Issues

Readings

Knight, Roosa, and Umaña-Taylor. Ch. 2.


**Week 2: Race and Ethnicity as Latent (“Left-Hand Side”) Constructs**

Monday, July 1, 2013 – What Are We Measuring? Ethnicity, Raciality, and Ethnoraciality Models

*Guest Speaker: Dr. Mosi Ifatunji, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill*

**Readings**

- Krysan and Lewis. Ch. 5

Tuesday, July 2, 2013 - Reliability and Validity in Measurements of Race and Ethnicity

**Readings**

- Knight, Roosa, and Umaña-Taylor. Ch. 4 and 5.

Wednesday, July 3, 2013 - Multi-Group Categorizations of Race and Ethnicity

**Readings**


Thursday, July 4, 2013 – No Class

Friday, July 5, 2013 – Multidimensionality in Quantitative Research on Race and Ethnicity

Readings


**Week 3: Race and Ethnicity as Manifest (“Right-Hand Side”) Constructs**

Monday, July 8, 2013 – A Choice of Ideology or Methodology? Multi- vs. Single Group Models

Readings


Tuesday, July 9, 2013 – Group Comparison Models I: Mediation/Moderation Methods

Readings


Wednesday, July 10, 2013 – Group Comparison II: Decomposition Methods

Readings

Zuberi and Bonilla-Silva. Ch 19.


Thursday, July 11, 2013 – Intersectionality Models

Readings


Friday, July 12, 2013 - Causal Inference: The Elephant in the Room of Social Science Research on Race and Ethnicity


Week 4: Modeling Racial and Ethnic Stratification

Monday, July 15, 2013 - Experimental Designs and Analyses

Readings

Zuberi and Bonilla-Silva. Ch. 9

Stanfield, John H., II. 2011. Rethinking Race and Ethnicity in Research Methods. Walnut Creek, CA: Left Coast Press. Ch. 7


Tuesday, July 16, 2013 – Counterfactual Methods and Internet Studies

Readings


Zuberi and Bonilla-Silva. Ch. 6.


Wednesday, July 17, 2013 – Multilevel Models I: Organizational and Cross-National Designs

Readings

Zuberi and Bonilla-Silva. Ch. 12 and 14.


Thursday, July 18, 2013 – Multilevel Models: Longitudinal Designs

Readings


Friday, July 19, 2013 – Multilevel Models: Spatial Designs

Readings

