Race, Ethnicity, and Quantitative Methods II
Syllabus
2020 Summer Session II

10am to 12pm Weekdays (July 20 - August 14, 2020)

Instructors:

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1 Overview

This course is designed to provide participants with an overview of theories and methodological approaches common in research involving race and ethnicity, as well as other social identities. During the first week of the course, we will cover the history of studies on race and ethnicity in social research. This will serve as the foundation for the course and participants will be encouraged to identify an original research question. In the second week, the instructors will discuss qualitative and quantitative tools in the existing literature and course participants will assess these tools to determine which is most appropriate for their project. In the third and fourth weeks, there will be a conference style presentation where participants will present their research project / poster for feedback. In the final days of the course, participants will incorporate the feedback they receive and update their projects. Topics to be covered include: intergroup attitudes, racial and ethnic prejudice and measurement, the intersectional approach, as well as publicly available datasets in ICPSR database and elsewhere.

This course assumes basic statistical knowledge and familiarity with linear regression; participants unfamiliar with regression analysis are encouraged to enroll in “Regression Analysis II: Linear Models” and/or “Statistics and Data Analysis II: The Basics of Regression”. Since participants will complete a research project, familiarity with a statistical software is encouraged; enrollment in “Introduction to the R Statistical Computing Environment” and “Introduction to Computing” would be helpful in this regard.

This course will complement material taught in Race, Ethnicity, and Quantitative Methods (REQM) I in the first summer session of ICPSR with some overlap. However completion of REQM I is not a pre-requisite for enrollment in REQM II.

2 Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Describe historical debates and methodological approaches to studying race and ethnicity in social science research.

2. Critically analyze the strengths and weaknesses of various qualitative and quantitative approaches.

3. Respectfully contribute to group discussions relating to race and ethnicity.

4. Understand the major contributions and seminal pieces of research that examines race and ethnicity.
5. Develop and present an original research project incorporating theoretical approaches and tools covered throughout the course.

6. Receive feedback on their project and offer constructive feedback to their colleagues.

3 Assessment

Participants who are taking this course for a grade are expected to complete four required assignments throughout the session. Other participants who are taking the course are also strongly encouraged to submit the following assignments.

1. Submission of research question(s). 15%. Participants should submit no more than three research questions they are planning to work on during the session for feedback at the start of class on the first Friday in the course. Participants can draw on previous research projects that they would like to update or questions they are planning to work on during the Summer Program. We encourage each participant to work with the instructional team closely throughout the term.

2. Paper draft. 50% Participants will submit a draft of a paper they write in its entirety during the session. They will present it during the conference. Please send the papers via email to the instructional team and the assigned discussant by the Wednesday of the third week. The paper should be between 10-15 pages, excluding cover sheet and bibliography. It should include empirical findings - qualitative or quantitative. Participants will receive feedback from the instructional team. The papers will be assigned to a discussant at this stage.

3. Mini-Conference presentation. 20% Conference will be on the third and fourth weeks. Presentation details will be given throughout the session. There will be a Q & A session after each presentation.

4. Discussant feedback. 15% Each discussant will provide at least three substantive comments after the presentation. The comments will be typed and emailed to the author and the instructional team before the conference presentation is given by the author.

Please note: In order to get a grade in this workshop, the paper needs to be a new project on which the participants will work throughout the session. Those who are auditing the course with no grade expectations can still present their papers at the mini conference and get feedback.
4 Readings

Participants will be expected to complete scholarly readings related to the focus of this course. All readings will either be available for participants to access through the University of Michigan’s online library or provided by the course instructors.

4.1 Daily Readings

The schedule below contains the readings scheduled for each week. Course instructors will inform participants of the daily readings throughout the term so the list is subject to change. Our daily class meetings will center around discussion of the substantive topics covered in the assigned readings, so participants are strongly encouraged to complete readings before coming to class. While reading, be sure to focus on the:

- Theoretical setup
- Research design - observation, experimental, data in quantitative analysis, etc.
- Variable measurement - scaling, validity, reliability, etc.
- Major findings and implications

5 Weekly Schedule

We reserve the right to amend the schedule, if it is necessary.

1. Week 1: Overview of Research Relating to Race and Ethnicity

   Readings

Assignment: Submit RQs for feedback.

2. **Week 2: Quantitative Approaches**
   
   **Readings**
   

   Discussants will be assigned.

3. **Week 3: Qualitative Approaches and Mini-Conference I**
   
   **Readings**
   


Assignment: Paper draft due by Wednesday of this week. Discussant comments must be submitted before the conference.

4. **Week 4: Project Updates and Mini-Conference II**

*Wrap-up*

Assignment: Revision memo due this week.