**Case Studies in International Political Economy**

2012 Summer 　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　 Graduate School of Public Policy

Mon & Weds. 　 　　　　　　　 Nobuhiro Hiwatari

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The course is designed as a workshop to enable participants to conduct empirical research and experience writing professional papers in international political economy. The participants will have a firsthand experience on (1) how to formulate relevant research puzzles based on cutting edge academic work, (2) how to efficiently conduct social science research on the specific research question, and on the pedagogical merits of peer reviews and criticisms. Like most human endeavors, one can only excel in the art of paper writing through learning by doing,

The course is divided into two parts:

At the first class meeting, participants are expected to declare the tentative topic of his/her paper. Henceforth, during the first part of the course (week 2 to 5), the class will read the works of the leading scholars on their chosen topics. Thus, prior to the first meeting, everyone is expected to have in mind an author and/or articles the person wishes to analyze in class, selected by referring to my international political economy course syllabus, which can be downloaded from <<http://web.iss.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~hiwatari/>>, or by skimming the table of contents of the recent issues of the major journals in international political economy (such as, *International Organization*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *World Politics*, *International Interaction*, etc.).

The purpose of the first part of the course is to familiarize oneself with how his/her topic is argued by leading researchers of the field as well as with the basic structure of academic/professional papers. Among the scholars listed in my syllabus, people such as Mansfield-Milner (trade), Simmons (investment and finance), Rodrik (development), Bernhard-Leblang, (currency), Quinn (capital liberalization), Jensen (Investment), Busch-Reinhardt (WTO), Dreher-Veeland (IMF), etc, are likely to appear as one’s choice of readings.

While introducing one’s research topic and related readings, each participant is required to file his/her paper topic by the end of week three. By then, each participant is likely to realize that research papers in international political economy are usually structured in the following manner, regardless of whether it is a quantitative and large-n or a qualitative and small-n research:

International economic policy/relations = political independent variables + economic control variables

By then, each participant is also likely to figure out whether his/her original research focuses on *descriptive inference* (meaning indentifying the nature of the dependent variable) or *causal inference* (meaning identifying the relationship between the dependent variable and independent variable), a distinction that shapes the appropriate method and data used.

The second part of the course opens at the beginning of week 6 by which everyone is expected to hand in a research paper prospectus stating the paper’s dependent variable (as well as independent and control variables for causal inference research), its basic hypothesis, and what kind of data or materials will be used to substantiate the hypothesis.

After Week 6, the class will concentrate on the presentation of in-class progress reports. Everyone will take turns in reporting how their paper is progressing while others will make suggestions and criticisms on how each reporter should proceed in finishing the paper. It is extremely important to realize that figuring out the argument presented by other participants, including its strength and weakness, is a repetition of the mind process one has to go through in competing one’s own paper. Everyone is expected to write up his/her research paper and present it at a mini-conference, which will be held in scorching mid-July.

**References on methodology**

**Basics**

1. Gary King, Robert O. Keohane and Sidney Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994)
2. Henry E. Brady and David Collier (eds.), *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards* (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2004)
3. Stephen Van Evera, *Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science*, (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1997).

**Specific topics**

1. Bear F. Braumoeller
* Bear F. Braumoeller, “Explaining Variance: Or, Stuck in a Moment We Can’t Get Out Of,” *Political Analysis,* 14(2006), 268-290.
1. Andrew Bennett
* Alexander L. George and Andrew Bennett, *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences* (Cambridge MA: The MIT Press, 2004).
* Andrew Bennett and Colin Elman, “Complex Causal Relations and Case Study Methods: The Example of Path Dependence,” *Political Analysis,* 14(2006), 250-267.
1. Barbara Geddes
* Barbara Geddes, *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics* (Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press, 2003).
1. John Gerring
* John Gerring, *Social Science Methodology: A Critical Framework* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001).
* John Gerring,” What Is a Case Study and What Is It Good for?” *American Political Science Review,* 98-2, 341-354.
* John Gerring, “Is There a (Viable) Crucial-Case Method?” *Comparative Political Studies,* 40-3(2007), 231-253.
1. Gary Goertz
* Gary Goertz and Harvey Starr (eds.), *Necessary Conditions: Theory, Methodology, and Applications* (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2003).
* Gary Goertz and James Mahoney, “Two-Level Theories and Fuzzy-Set Analysis,” *Sociological Methods & Reserch,* 33-4(2005), 497-538.
* Gary Goertz, *Social Science Concepts: A Users Guide* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006).
1. James Mahoney
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* James Mahoney, “A Tale of Two Cultures: Contrasting Quantitative and Qualitative Research,” *Political Analysis,* 14(2006), 227-249.
* James Mahoney, “Qualitative Methodology and Comparative Politics,” *Comparative Political Studies,* 40-2(2007), 122-144.
* James Mahoney, “Toward a Unified Theory of Causality,” *Comparative Political Studies,* Forthcoming(2008).
1. Catherine Marshall
* Catherine Marshall and Gretchen B. Rossman, *Designing Qualitative Research, 4th edition* (Thousand Oaks, Ca: Sage, 2006).
1. Mathew B. Miles
* Mathew B. Miles and A. Michael Huberman, *Qualitative Data Analysis; An Expanded Sourcebook, 2nd edition* (Thousand Oaks, Ca: Sage, 1994).
1. Charles C. Ragin
* Charles C. Ragin, and Howard S. Becker (eds,), *What is a Case? Exploring the Foundations of Social Inquiry* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992).
* Charles C. Ragin, *Constructing Social Research: The Unity and Diversity of Method* (Thousand Oaks: Pine Forge Press, 1994).
* Charles C. Ragin, “The Distinctiveness of Case-oriented Research,” *HSR: Health Services Research,* 34-5, 1137-1151.
* Charles C. Ragin, *Fuzzy-set Social Science* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2000).
* Charles C. Ragin, “Set Relations in Social Research: Evaluating Their Consistency and Coverage,” *Political Analysis,* 14(2006), 291-310.
* Charles C. Ragin, “How to Lure Analytic Social Science Out of the Doldrums: Some Lessons form Comparative Research,” *International Sociology,* 21-5, 633-646.
1. Detlef F. Sprinz
* Detlef F. Sprinz and Yeal Wolinsky-Nahmias (eds.), *Models, Numbers and Cases: Methods for Studying International Relations* (Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press, 2004).
1. William M. K. Trochim
* William M. K. Trochim, *The Research Methods Knowledge Base, 2nd Edition* (Cincinnati: Atomic Dog Publishing, 2001).