

POLS 2000
Methods in Political Science

Fall 2022(Section: 2000-03)
Monday-Friday: 9:00-9:50 (In-person)

Dr. Post Basnet
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Office Hours: Monday 1-4 p.m.
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from other homework assignments in that it is not only about reading and summarizing research findings. Students will explore a topic of their interest, find a puzzle, review the existing literature, and try to solve it through some empirical methods. The topic should be from Political Science, but students are free to choose any topic they want (please discuss it with the instructor). Students will complete and submit several assignments throughout the semester that will lead to a research design and present it in the classroom during the final weeks.

- A. Research Question and Bibliography: There will be mandatory meetings during the third week of the course to discuss your potential topics (we will discuss this in detail in the class). Students are required to prepare a research question and write a 5 page (double spaced) annotated bibliography containing a minimum of 10 articles or books for your research. Due: Sept. 24. It will be worth 5% of your final grade.
- B. Literature Review: Students will read, summarize, and integrate the readings into their work. It is not just a summary of the readings. Either nobody has answered your research question or you are not satisfied with the answers from the existing works. It should be 5 pages long (double spaced). Due: Oct. 15. It will be worth 5% of your final grade.
- C. Research Plan: There will be a 5-7 page (double spaced) research plan for your analysis. You are required to write your theory, hypotheses, and how you will test them. You also need to identify the type of data you need and how you will get it. Due: Nov 7. It will be worth 12 5% of your final grade.
- D. Full Research Design: It will be a well-crafted 12-15 page (double spaced) research design. It will have an introduction, literature review, theory, and a data and methods section. Due Nov: 25. It will have 10% of your final grade.
- E. Presentation: During the final two weeks, each student is required to present her paper in the classroom. Your classmates will ask questions and make comments and suggestions to improve your paper. Dates for this 7-minute presentation for each student will be decided later. Nov. 28; Nov 30 Dec. 2. It will be 5% of your final grade.
- F. Value Statement: Students are also required to write a value statement for their research. It will be a one-two page statement showing what values the student brings to research and how such values inform their research. Due: Nov. 19. It will be 5% of your final grade.

Grades:

Class Participation - 10%

Research Design 30%

Homework (8) 20% (2.5% each)

Research-

Value Statement 5%

Mid-term Exam 15%

Final Exam 20%

to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit <https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/> or call the Student Success Center at 314-977-3484.

Basic Needs Security:

Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing food or difficulty navigating campus resources, and who believe this may affect their performance in the course, are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office (deanofstudents@slu.edu or 314-977-9378) for support. Furthermore, please notify the

--Pollock & Edwards: chapter 10 (Reviewing Prior Literature section only; pp. 319-321)

--Pollock & Edwards: chapter 5 (Making Controlled Comparisons)

Wednesday: Quasi-

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graphs/charts, and histograms. We will then discuss the measures of central tendency (mean,

Homework Assignment 5 Due

Lab #8 (4:15-7 p.m., Wednesday)

Week 9: Review and mid-term exam
(Oct 17- Oct 21)

Friday: Logistic regression

Lab #12 (4:15-7 p.m., Wednesday)

Week 14: Wrapping up

(No 21-25)

Monday: Powner: chapter 11 (Posters, Presentations, and Publishing)

Wednesday: Thanksgiving, No Class

Friday: Thanksgiving, No Class

Week 15: Presentation

(Nov 28-Dec 2)

Monday: Presentation

Wednesday: Presentation

Friday: Presentation

Week 16: Presentation and Exam Review

(Dec 5-7)

Monday: Presentation

Wednesday: Exam Review

Final Exam:

December 12, Monday