

Professor Kira Sanbonmatsu
(848) 932-8798
sanbon@rci.rutgers.edu

Tuesdays: 11:30 a.m. to 2:10 p.m.
Eagleton 2nd Fl Conf. Rm
Office Hrs: Tues. 2:15 to 3:15 p.m.
and by appt.

Research Design for Dissertations in Women and Politics

16:790:636
Spring 2015

Description

This course is designed to assist you with your dissertation or dissertation proposal. It is a workshop for students who are in the process of writing a dissertation proposal or dissertation, as well as for students who have not yet taken their comprehensive exams. This course is a complement to, rather than a substitute for, your dissertation committee. We will discuss the origins of research projects and factors to consider in choosing a dissertation question. We will spend most of the semester discussing research design issues. At the end of the semester, we will discuss writing strategies and various aspects of the profession including the job market.

Required Book (ordered from Barnes and Noble)

1. Becker, Howard S. 2007. *Writing for Social Scientists: How to Start and Finish Your Thesis, Book or Article*. Second edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Other Required Readings

The other readings listed on this syllabus are on Sakai ("DISS PROP WMN & POL 01 Sp15"). Students will also formulate reading lists for this semester that are specific to their projects.

Course Requirements

- 35% Assignments
- 30% Participation
- 35% Final Paper

Students will present twice during the semester and serve as discussants for other students. We will finalize the presentation schedule in the beginning of the semester.

Students will also complete five assignments. Please familiarize yourself with the assignment deadlines so that you can begin work on them in advance. Please upload your assignments to Dropbox on our Sakai site by the due date/time.

Your final paper will take the form of either a draft proposal or a dissertation chapter – depending on your status in the program. It is due by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday May 12.

Recommended Books on reserve at Douglass Library

1. Carroll, Susan J., ed. 2003. *Women and American Politics: New Questions, New Directions*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

2. Goertz, Gary, and Amy G. Mazur, eds. 2008. *Politics, Gender, and Concepts: Theory and Methodology*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
3. Gutiérrez y Muhs, Gabriella, et al., eds. 2012. *Presumed Incompetent: The Intersections of Race and Class for Women in Academia*. Boulder, CO: University Press of Colorado.
4. King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, Sidney Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
5. Wolbrecht, Christina, Karen Beckwith, and Lisa Baldez, eds. 2008. *Political Women and American Democracy*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Week 1 January 20 Organizational meeting

* Please begin work on Assignment # 1 (due Feb. 3)

Week 2 January 27 The Dissertation Question

1. "Writing a Dissertation: Advice from Five Award Winners." 1986. *PS: Political Science and Politics*. Winter (19). Articles by: Kim Lane Scheppele, David Pion-Berlin, Ruth Grant, Donald Chisholm, and Bruce W. Jentleson.
2. "Symposium on Advisors and the Dissertation Proposal." 2001. *PS: Political Science and Politics*. December (34). Articles by: Stephen L. Wasby, Peter J. May, Richard L. Fox, Kevin R. den Dulk, Sara C. Benesh, Kristi Andersen, and Victoria A. Farrar-Myers.
3. Goldsmith, John A., John Komlos, and Penny Schine Gold. 2001. *The Chicago Guide to Your Academic Career: A Portable Mentor for Scholars from Graduate School through Tenure*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 3 and 4.

*** Class Presentations**

Week 3 February 3 The Dissertation Proposal

Assignment #1: Write up to five 1 to 2 page versions of your dissertation question (as you currently understand it). Upload to Dropbox before the start of class.

1. Dittmar, Kelly. "Campaigns as Gendered Institutions: Stereotypes and Strategy in Statewide Races." Dissertation proposal.
2. Schreiber, Ronnee. "'But Perhaps We Speak for You': Antifeminist Women and the Representation of Political Interests." Dissertation proposal. (Please read both "long" and "short" versions.)

3. Caul, Miki. "How Established Parties Change: Political Parties and the Increase in Women's Representation in Industrialized Democracies." Dissertation proposal.
4. Htun, Mala, and S. Laurel Weldon. "States and Sex Equality: Why Do Governments Promote Women's Rights?" Proposal submitted to the National Science Foundation.

*** Class Presentations**

Week 4 February 10 Issues in Research Design

* Special Guest: Professor Shauna Shames, RU-Camden

1. Reading TBA

Week 5 February 17 Concept Development

Assignment #2: Write a 3 to 4 page memo about a central concept in your dissertation project. Upload to Dropbox before the start of class.

1. Goertz, Gary, and Amy G. Mazur, eds. 2008. *Politics, Gender, and Concepts: Theory and Methodology*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 2, 4, and 10.
2. Paxton, Pamela. 2000. "Women's Suffrage in the Measurement of Democracy: Problems of Operationalization." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 35:92-111.

*** Class Presentations**

Week 6 February 24 Research Design

Assignment #3: Identify one (or more) published work(s) in your field (or a related field) that uses a similar design to the one you are planning to pursue in your dissertation. List these cites in a document and upload to Dropbox before the start of class.

1. King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, Sidney Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapter 1.
2. "Review Symposium: The Qualitative-Quantitative Disputation: Gary King, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba's *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*." 1995. *American Political Science Review* 89 (June): 454-481.

*** Class Presentations**

Week 7 March 3

Assignment #4: Assemble a bibliography of methodological readings that will help you design your dissertation project. Make a list for yourself of the priority with which you should begin these readings and complete this reading list this semester. (Contact me in February if you need suggestions for readings). Upload your bibliography to Dropbox before the start of class.

1. Geddes, Barbara. 2003. *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. Chapters 1-2 (pp. 1-88).

*** Class Presentations****Week 8 March 10**

Assignment #5: Revise Assignment #1 . Revise as many as five 1 to 2 page versions of your dissertation question (as you currently understand it). Please upload to Dropbox before the start of class.

1. George, Alexander L., and Andrew Bennett. 2005. *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences*. Boston, MA: MIT Press. Chapter 1 (pp. 3-36).
2. Dunning, Thad. 2008. "Improving Causal Inference: Strengths and Limitations of Natural Experiments." *Political Research Quarterly* 61 (2): 282-293.
3. Ahmed, Amel, and Rudra Sil. 2012. "When Multi-Method Research Subverts Methodological Pluralism—or, Why We Still Need Single-Method Research." *Perspectives on Politics* 10 (4): 935-953.

* Please identify the dissertation that you want to read for Week 12 by March 10. See me for recommendations.

http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/indexes/digital_diss_RU

<http://search.proquest.com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/pqdt/advanced?accountid=13626>

*** Class Presentations****Week 9 March 17 * Spring Break *****Week 10 March 24 Gender, Intersectionality, and Political Science**

1. Smooth, Wendy. 2012. "Intersectionality from Theoretical Framework to Policy Intervention." In Angelia R. Wilson, ed. *Situating Intersectionality. The Politics of Intersectionality*. New York: Palgrave.

2. Ackerly, Brooke. 2009. "Why a Feminist Theorist Studies Methods." *Politics & Gender* 5 (September): 431-436.
3. Hawkesworth, Mary. 2005. "Engendering Political Science: An Immodest Proposal." *Politics & Gender* 1 (March): 141-156.

*** Class Presentations**

Week 11 March 31 Writing

1. Becker, Howard S. 2007. *Writing for Social Scientists: How to Start and Finish Your Thesis, Book or Article*. Second edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

*** Class Presentations**

Week 12 April 7 Sample Dissertations

1. Read a dissertation of your choice.

*** Class Presentations**

Week 13 April 14 Conferences, Publishing, and the Review Process

1. Gupta, Devashree, and Israel Waismel-Manor. 2006. "Network in Progress: A Conference Primer for Graduate Students." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 39 (July): pp. 485-490
doi:10.1017/S1049096506060720
2. Myers, Charles T. 2004. "A Short Tour of Book Publishing for Political Scientists." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 37 (July): 489-491.
3. Derricourt, Robin. 1996. *An Author's Guide to Scholarly Publishing*. Princeton University Press. Chapters TBA.
4. Polsky, Andrew J. 2007. "Seeing Your Name in Print: Unpacking the Mysteries of the Review Process at Political Science Scholarly Journals." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 40 (July): 539-543.
5. Roundtable Summaries from the 2007 Midwest Women's Caucus for Political Science Panels. Read pp. 7-18 of the Fall 2007 Newsletter.
http://midwestwomenscaucus.files.wordpress.com/2007/08/newsletter_caucus_fall2007.pdf

*** Class Presentations**

Week 14 April 21 The Job Market

1. Wuffle, A. 2006. "Uncle Wuffle's Advice on Job Talks." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 39 (October): 883-886. doi:10.1017/S1049096506061117
2. Hassner, Ron E. 2008. "Trial by Fire: Surviving the Job Talk Q&A." *PS: Political Science & Politics* Volume 41, Issue 04, October pp 803-808. doi:10.1017/S1049096508081067
3. Roundtable Summaries of the 2006 and 2008 Midwest Women's Caucus for Political Science. Read pp. 4-10 of the Fall 2008 newsletter and pp. 3-8 of the Fall 2006 newsletter.
http://midwestwomenscaucus.files.wordpress.com/2009/08/mpsa-caucus-newsletter_fall-2008b.pdf
<http://midwestwomenscaucus.files.wordpress.com/2007/08/summer06newsletter.pdf>

Week 15 April 28 Race and Gender Issues in the Profession

1. Monforti, Jessica Lavariega, and Melissa R. Michelson. 2008. "Diagnosing the Leaky Pipeline: Continuing Barriers to the Retention of Latinas and Latinos in Political Science." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 42(1): 161-166.
2. Alexander-Floyd, Nikol G. 2008. "'Written, published, ... cross-indexed, and footnoted': Producing Black Female Ph.D.s and Black Women's and Gender Studies Scholarship in Political Science." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 41 (4): 819-829.
3. Anonymous. 2014. "No Shortcuts to Gender Equality: The Structures of Women's Exclusion in Political Science." *Politics & Gender* 10 (3): 437-447.
4. Monroe, Kristen Renwick, Jenny Choi, Emily Howell, Chloe Lampros-Monroe, Crystal Trejo and Valentina Perez. 2014. "Gender Equality in the Ivory Tower, and How Best to Achieve It." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 47(2): 418 – 426. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S104909651400033X>

Recommended readings

1. Tolleson-Rinehart, Sue, and Susan J. Carroll. 2006. "'Far from Ideal:' The Gender Politics of Political Science." *American Political Science Review* 100 (November): 507-513.
2. Tripp, Aili Mari. 2006. "Why So Slow? The Challenges of Gendering Comparative Politics." *Politics & Gender* 2 (June): 249-263.
3. "Critical Perspectives on Gender and Politics: Contributions of Women Political Scientists to a More Just World." *Politics & Gender* (June): 320-359.

*** Tuesday May 12 5:00 P.M. ***

Final Papers due to Dropbox