**ICPSR Summer Program**

ICPSR is an eight week summer program. The first session for the up and coming year runs from 22 June to 17 July and the second from 20 July to 14 August. There is no major application process for ICPSR and registration can be completed on the program’s [webpage](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/pages/sumprog/schedule.html). ICPSR offers a number of four-week workshops on a number of quantitative methodologies, but it is worth mentioning that the course offerings differ between the first and second session. Some courses are designed with the full eight-week period in mind like Bayesian and Multi-level modeling; however, this doesn’t mean that you could not jump into a course in the second session. I did Bayesian II when I attended because I took a course from EDMS on the same topic and didn’t feel like I was missing anything.

Those interested in attending should consult the course listings for each session and decide what works best for them. I would add that for certain topics, like Causal Inference, your time would be better spent taking a course outside of the department since four weeks does not leave enough time to get a full understanding of the course materials. The main problem with ICPSR is that it is expensive. I funded my classes with funding from the [EITM Certification Scholarship](http://eitm.princeton.edu/scholarship.html). The scholarship is relatively easy to complete, requiring a short (250-1000 words) essay, a copy of your CV and transcripts, and three letters of recommendation. The scholarship covers tuition costs for up to four workshops (two workshops per session) and affiliates who complete program with good grades receive an additional “recommendation” from the program towards applying for the [EITM Institute](http://eitm.princeton.edu/). ICPSR offers a number of [scholarship](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/pages/sumprog/scholarships/index.html) opportunities every year and I know that some people have had success receiving money from the department to fund their tuition costs.

[Advancing Research on Conflict Summer Program (ARC)](https://advancingconflictresearch.com/)

ARC is a week-long residential training program for researchers preparing to complete field research in fragile or violence-affected settings. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, applications for ARC will likely be limited for the coming year, but it is worth keeping an eye on. The call for applicants typically goes out in March. The course includes instruction on how to design and implement field methods in difficult field conditions, including training sessions on research ethics, risk management, data protection, IRB protocols (which are necessary but insufficient for conducting ethical field research), emergency first aid, crisis mediation, and working with survivors of violence. At the end of the week students have an opportunity to present their own work-in-progress to a group of scholars during a short two-day conference.

Given that the program is designed to prepare students who are preparing for field research, it is a good idea to apply when you have a good idea of what your field research will look like (end of second or third year), but my cohort had students at all stages of their programs including a post-doc. The program itself has a few needs-based scholarships, but the cost of the program isn’t overwhelmingly expensive considering everything the program entails (food, lodging, first-aid certification, etc.). Overall, the program costs about 2,000 USD, if you are thinking about attending, it is a good idea to start planning ahead on how you will fund the program and to talk with your advisors about possible funding opportunities.