**Qualitative Research Programs**

**IQMR Summer Program**

***The program:*** The Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR) is a two-week program at Syracuse University. The program offers two and three-day modules over a range of qualitative and quantitative methodologies, such as archival research, GIS, process tracing, computational text analysis, elite interviews, survey methodology, ethnography, and others. With a range of courses offered every day, students are able to build their own schedules and take the courses that best fit their research interests. A full list of the modules can be found [here](https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/uploadedFiles/moynihan/cqrm/IQMR%202019%20Schedule%20Outline.pdf). The 2020 program was postponed to 2021, but several of the modules can be found in webinar format, [here](https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/cqrm/Summer_2020_Panels_and_Webinars/).

Students also have an opportunity to present their work throughout the program. Like the courses, you can select which paper presentations you would like to attend. Presentations are grouped by subject matter. This is a great opportunity to practice presenting, with the bonus of receiving excellent feedback.

The majority of students who attend this program are in their fourth or fifth year of graduate school, and study Comparative Politics. As an Americanist however, I found IQMR very helpful. The connections and relationships built at this program, particularly between students, are great.

***Application and funding:*** The University of Maryland selects two students to attend IQMR, free of charge. You apply directly to the Methods chair. Students can also apply directly to IQMR, also free of charge. In addition to the courses, UMD covers room and board (a hotel room, shared with a roommate. For $600 you can upgrade to a single room). You can also apply for a GVPT methods scholarship to help with travel costs (up to $400). More on that process [here](https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/cqrm/Institute_for_Qualitative_and_Multi-Method_Research/). The 2021 program will include the previously accepted 2020 students.

**PLCY 798Z – Qualitative Research Methods and Public Policy**

The UMD Public Policy School requires all public policy PhD students to take qualitative methods in addition to quantitative. This course is their required qualitative methods course. It is ideal for students who are preparing to defend their prospectus. Each week presents a given qualitative method such as interviewing, archival research, or case studies. Students are asked to read not only literature on the method, but excerpts from public policy dissertations that utilize these methods. The professor, Dr. Peter Reuter, assigns discussion leaders based on your own personal research interests.

The bulk of the grading relies on presentations of your ongoing prospectus research. Students present their research design at the midpoint of the semester. Students are then expected to take into consideration any feedback, and present again at the conclusion of the semester, as well as submit a prospectus draft.

The professor is very “old school” in his approach to methodology, but I found the feedback very detailed and thoughtful. While IQMR is arguably a more substantive and cutting-edge approach to qualitative research, PLCY 798Z is a very accessible and helpful course that provides the basics needed to perform rigorous qualitative research. Please email me for a sample syllabus, or information on how to register for courses outside of the department.