

Master's Thesis Proposal - AY 2023-2024

Overview & Instructions:

In this survey, you are requested to provide tentative information about your thesis project. Your proposal will be shared with potential supervisors and may be used in the matching process. Before you proceed:

1. Please refer to **the Moodle section relevant to this topic:**

(<https://moodle.hertie-school.org/mod/book/view.php?id=90756&chapterid=2771>)

2. Review **the Master's Thesis Guidelines** to make sure that you are well informed about the requirements of the Master's Thesis module:

(<https://moodle.hertie-school.org/mod/book/view.php?id=90756&chapterid=2770>)

Important: You can only submit the form once. To prevent data loss, we recommend that you save a copy of your responses in a separate file. This precautionary measure will help safeguard against browser crashes and allow for seamless continuation at a later time. Kindly be aware that this form does not currently support auto-saving; data is only saved upon submission and if you accidentally close this browser window your answers will be lost.

Personal Information

1

First Name

*

Fernando

2

Last Name

*

Corral Lozada

3

Hertie Email Address

*

222836@students.hertie-school.org

4

Hertie School Matriculation Number *

222836

5

Study Programme *

☐ MPP☐ MIA☒ MDS

6

Year of start of studies (in your current programme)

*

2022



7

Your Area of Concentration

*

Not applicable (I'm an MDS student)



8

Have you participated before in the Master's Thesis Cycle as part of your current study programme?

*

☐ Yes☒ No☐ Not sure

9

Are you abroad on an exchange semester in Fall 2023? *

☐ Yes☒ No

Research Topic

10

Main Field of Study

*

From the list provided below, please choose the field of study most related to your project (use the "Other" option if needed):

- ☒ Data Science
- ☐ Sustainability, Climate Policy, and Energy
- ☐ International Security
- ☐ European Governance
- ☐ Digital Governance and Artificial Intelligence
- ☐ Human Rights and Global Governance
- ☐ Microeconomics and Behavioral Sciences
- ☐ Political Institutions, Democracy and Ethics
- ☐ Social Policy and Social Inequality
- ☐ Macroeconomics
- ☐ Public Management and Organization
- ☐ Otras

11

Secondary Field of Study

From the list provided below, please choose a secondary field of study related to your project, if applicable (use the "Other" option if needed):

- ☐ Data Science
- ☐ Sustainability, Climate Policy, and Energy
- ☐ International Security
- ☐ European Governance
- ☐ Digital Governance and Artificial Intelligence
- ☒ Human Rights and Global Governance
- ☐ Microeconomics and Behavioral Sciences
- ☐ Political Institutions, Democracy and Ethics
- ☐ Society, Social Policy, and Inequality
- ☐ Macroeconomics
- ☐ Public Management and Organization
- ☐ Otras

12

Please elaborate on your topic or research area in one or two sentences.

*

The topic of the study is about how climate change under the RCP 8.5 (high-emissions) scenario will impact migration patterns and policy responses in the US-Mexico border region. In turn, this will create a bottleneck scenario in Mexico, where immigrants may choose to seek refuge or asylum seeker status to remain in Mexico, rather than attempting to cross into the US.

The datasets I want to work with are:

1. TRAC Website.

- Detailed datasets on undocumented immigrants in the US bordering states with Mexico for scholarly research.

<https://trac.syr.edu/>

2. Heat-related mortality risk model for climate change impact projection. (research paper)

- RCP 8.5 climate change temperature increase data.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23928946/>

3. Local Responses to Climate Change Vulnerability Along the Western Reach of the US–Mexico Border (research paper)

- Understanding challenges the border region faces to incorporate climate change in its urban agenda and create the governance mechanisms for effective cross-border mitigation and adaptation.

4. Climate Migration at the Height and End of the Great Mexican Emigration Era (research paper)

- The findings of the study suggest that rural Mexico is unlikely to push large numbers of international "climate refugees" and that climate migration is indeed sensitive to conditions in sending and destination areas.

<https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Climate-Migration-at-the-Height-and-End-of-the-Era.-Riosmena-Nawrotzki/34be592c7054bbe77276f39cc22d94fdb398619e>

5. Climate Change and U.S.-Mexico Border Communities (research paper)

- Understanding the drivers of climate-related vulnerability and capacities for adaptation in the region in the context of the region's distinct history and contemporary challenges, shared climate regime, transboundary watersheds and airsheds, and interdependent economies and cultures.

https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.5822/978-1-61091-484-0_16

Further resources if needed:

- IOM
- INEGI
- IPCC
- UNFCCC
- UNHCR

Research Question

13

Please enter your tentative research question (RQ). Your answer is not binding

- you can still change your RQ after this point. Remember that a good RQ is focused, specific, clearly formulated, feasible, sufficiently complex, and relevant for your study field. (Max. 75 words). *

Under the RCP 8.5 (high-emissions) scenario, how will climate change impact migration patterns and policy responses in the already inhospitable Mexico-US border region and a bottleneck scenario in Mexico?

14

Briefly elaborate on the motivation behind your question. What makes your research question interesting and relevant? What is the key 'puzzle' that you aim to uncover? (Max. 100 words). *

Motivated by the current discussion in Mexico and the US, I'm keen to delve into the immigration issue. My prior experience volunteering at an immigrant center revealed the perilous journey families undertake for a better life. Given the looming climate change crisis, I aim to study its impact on border crossings, necessitating Mexico's readiness for new challenges. I'll explore the possibility of a bottleneck scenario, where immigrants opt for refuge or asylum in Mexico rather than the risky US journey. Through data analysis, I aim to provide data-driven policy recommendations and reforms, addressing climate-induced immigration with empirical evidence.

15

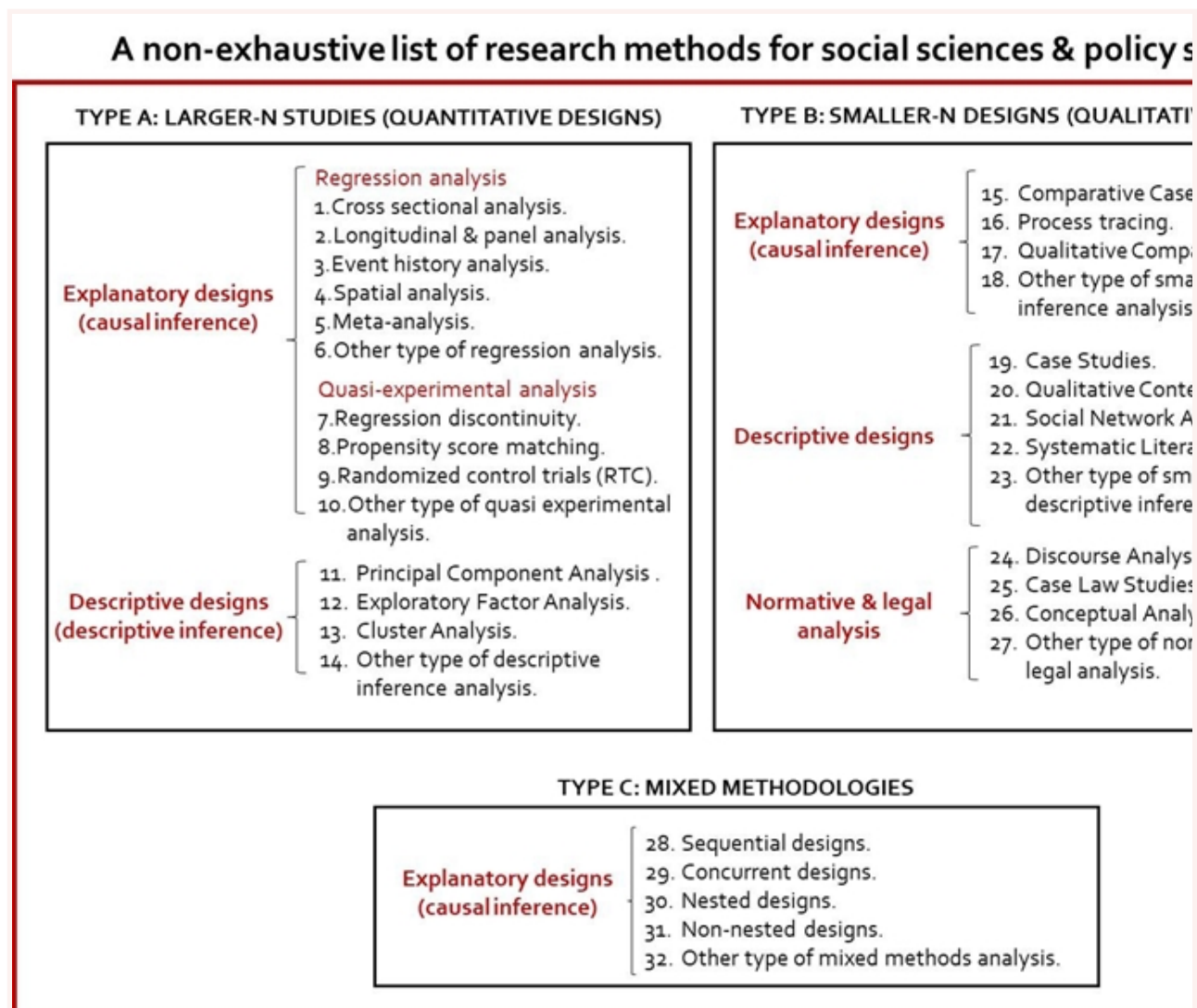
Briefly outline the key academic debate(s) that you have so far identified in connection to your research question. Have you already identified some of the key questions that other scholars have raised in this field? (Max. 100 words): *

1. To what extent is climate change contributing to both internal and international migration?
2. What Are the Economic, Social, and Political Implications of Climate-Induced Migration?
3. How effective are current policies in providing protection and support to climate migrants?
4. What Are the Humanitarian and Security Implications?
5. How can machine learning and predictive models enhance our ability to anticipate and respond to climate-induced migration patterns?
6. How Can Cross-Border Cooperation Be Enhanced?

Research Design

16

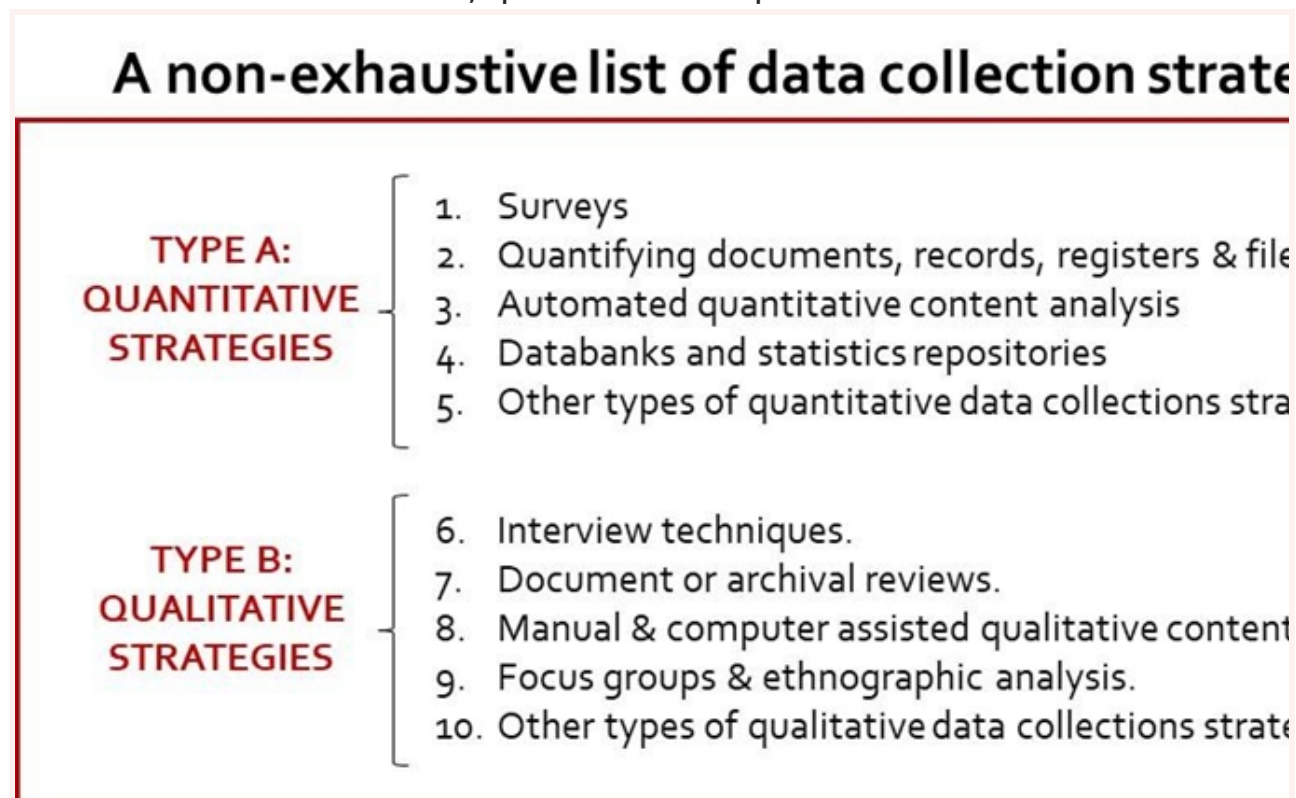
Research Methods: Do you already have an idea of what type of methods you will employ? Please select the option most relevant to your project (this is only tentative - you can still change your mind at a later point). If you are not sure at all, select "I do not know yet". If none of the options matches what you have in mind, select "Other" and indicate there your methods. Below is a figure with some of the most commonly employed methods classified by type. *



- ☐ **Quantitative designs** – Explanatory designs (causal inference)
- ☐ **Quantitative designs** – Descriptive designs (descriptive inference)
- ☐ **Qualitative designs** – Explanatory designs (causal inference)
- ☐ **Qualitative designs** – Descriptive designs
- ☐ **Qualitative designs** – Normative and legal analysis
- ☒ **Mixed Methodologies** – Explanatory designs (causal inference)
- ☐ I do not know yet.
- ☐ Otras

17

Data Collection Strategy: You have indicated what methods you plan to employ. Now please indicate how you plan to collect the data on which your methods will be used. Remember that your answer is only tentative at this point. **Select up to 3 data collection strategies below.** In the figure below you can see how these data collection strategies relate to the two broad research methods "families", quantitative and qualitative. *



- ☐ 1. Surveys
- ☐ 2. Quantifying documents, records, registers & files
- ☒ 3. Automated quantitative content analysis
- ☒ 4. Databanks and statistical repositories
- ☐ 5. Other quantitative data collection method(s).
- ☐ 6. Interview techniques
- ☐ 7. Document or archival reviews

- ☐ 8. Manual & computer assisted qualitative content analysis
- ☐ 9. Focus groups & ethnographic analysis
- ☒ 10. Other qualitative data collection method(s).
- ☐ I am not sure at this point.
- ☐ Otras

Supervisor Preferences

Please rank your **top 5 preferred MT supervisors** below. All options are listed in each drop-down menu. Do not select the same supervisor - this will not increase your chances to be assigned to this supervisor. The full list of supervisors active in AY 23-24 is also available on Moodle, where you will also find their supervision plans outlining their key expertise and research, their supervision methods, and their colloquium structure: <https://moodle.hertie-school.org/mod/book/view.php?id=90756&chapterid=2772>

Important: Whenever possible, students are allocated to the supervisors of their preference. We cannot guarantee that you will be matched with your preferred supervisor(s) since supervisors have fixed supervision capacities and supervision demand in certain topics (or for some supervisors) can exceed available supervision capacities.

On the role of supervisors: The main function of a supervisor is **not** to provide *subject matter expertise to students*. Rather, the main function of a supervisor is to advise students on matters of *research design and research project management*: to make sure that students understand what is needed to produce an original scientific paper fulfilling our academic standards, and to guide them as they complete the different stages of the project -from the formulation of a research question to the interpretation and contextualization of the results. All supervisors are therefore qualified to supervise all theses, even if they are not subject matter experts on the thesis' topic.

18

First preferred MT supervisor *

(The most preferred)

Magazinnik, Asya



19

Second preferred MT supervisor *

Munzert, Simon



20

Third preferred MT supervisor *

Gohdes, Anita



21

Fourth preferred MT supervisor *

Lowe, William



22

Fifth preferred MT supervisor *

Cali, Basak



Writing a thesis with another student (optional)

You can write a thesis with another student. Please note the different requirements for thesis written in teams (<https://moodle.hertie-school.org/mod/book/view.php?id=90756&chapterid=2770>)

23

Are you planning to write your thesis in a team with another student? *

☐ Yes

☒ No

24

Please provide the name (last name, first name) of your peer

NA

25

Indicate the matriculation number of your peer

El valor debe ser un número.

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