POLS 2220: Political Science Research Methods

Fall 2020

Lecture:	Monday & Wednesday & Friday 10:10 – 11:00 a.m.
Professor:	Dr. Yaoyao Dai
Email:	yaoyao.dai@uncc.edu (include "POLS2220" in subject line)
Office:	Fretwell 450B (Office hour will be virtual)
Office Hours:	Wednesday & Friday 11:30am–12:30pm and by appointment
Lab:	Monday 8:00 – 8:50 a.m.
TA/Lab Instructor:	Kellan Jones (kjone229@uncc.edu)
Office:	Fretwell 470G
Office Hours:	Tuesday 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (in office); Thursday 10:00 –11:00 a.m. (virtual) and by appointment
Course Website:	https://uncc.instructure.com/courses/124819 (Canvas)

This syllabus contains the policies and expectations I have established for POLS 2220. Please read the entire syllabus carefully before continuing in this course. These policies and expectations are intended to create a productive learning atmosphere for all students. Unless you are prepared to abide by these policies and expectations, you risk losing the opportunity to participate further in the course.

I reserve the right to modify the standards and requirements outlined in this syllabus at any time. I will notify you of such changes by announcements in class and posting a new syllabus on Canvas.

1 Course Description

POLS 2220 Political Science Research Methods provides an introduction to research design and quantitative analysis in the social sciences. Students will learn how to construct theories and design studies, how to quantify concepts, and how to test hypotheses using a variety of statistical techniques, including descriptive analysis, correlation, hypothesis testing, and regression analysis. The course will include classroom lectures and computer lab sessions to enable students to work hands-on with datasets. Basic math skills (algebra) are recommended.

The **Objectives** of this course are threefold:

- This course will provide you with the knowledge to ***understand*** and ***evaluate*** social science research, especially quantitative social science studies. To this end, we'll spend the first part of the course to learn the basics of social scientific inquiry: how to ask questions about social phenomena and how to produce and evaluate answers to those questions.
- This course will provide you with tools and opportunities to ***do*** quantitative research in political science. To this end, we'll learn–both by hand and with computer software– to use various statistical techniques including hypothesis testing and regression, to assess our hypotheses. At the end of the class, you will be able to write a research paper with data analyses.
- This class should equip you with the mind and tools to ***apply*** the knowledge you learned to your everyday life and advance your future career. The course should help you become a more critical consumer of information and a conscientious producer of knowledge.

2 Required Readings:

- **EPA:** Philip H. Pollock III and Barry C. Edwards. 2019. *The Essentials of Political Analysis, 6th Edition.* CQ Press.
- **RCPA:** Philip H. Pollock III and Barry C. Edwards. 2018. *An R companion to Political Analysis 2nd Edition.* CQ Press.
- **Additional Readings:** Will be available on Canvas.

3 Computation

We will teach the course using R and RStudio. R is an open-source programming language widely used for statistical analyses in academia and various industries. You can download it for free from www.r-project.org. RStudio is a more user-friendly IDE (integrated development environment) for R. You can download RStudio for free from https://rstudio.com/products/rstudio/. The required textbook, R companion (RCPA), provides good instructions on installing and using R and RStudio. You can also find helpsheets and cheatsheets on Canvas. The best and only way of learning to program is through practicing. Additional practice outside of the labs is strongly recommended but optional. In addition to the textbook and lab materials, you can find tutorials and short exercises DataCamp (https://learn.datacamp.com).

4 Course Requirements

Attendance is not optional; all lectures and lab sessions are required unless otherwise noted by the professor. This class introduces students to new and complicated concepts and computational skills. Missing class will negatively impact your ability to perform well on assignments and in exams. If you do miss class, you are expected to get notes from a fellow student – "private make-up lectures" with the professor or lab instructor will not occur. If you anticipate the need to be absent, please inform me as soon as possible; I reserve the right to grant excused absences (and make-up work) in extraordinary circumstances.

Participation in the lecture and lab is expected and graded. Participation will be graded based on both your ability and willingness to contribute to the class. It is hard to actively participate in a virtual classroom, but it is an important component in learning! So, please don't be afraid to speak up! Remember that a sincere question often adds as much (if not more) to our understanding of the course material as my lecture. To facilitate the participation in the virtual classroom, there will be various in-class activities, such as polls, quizzes, and discussions.

Readings. All readings should be completed by the date indicated in the syllabus. Unless otherwise noted, this means that weekly readings should be completed before the first lecture each week. It is very important that you come to class prepared so you can get the most out of the lectures and are ready to ask (and answer) questions about the readings. I may call on students at random with questions from time to time.

Weekly Lab Assignments. Lab assignments will be given during each lab session on Monday. The lab assignments usually include both programming questions (problem-solving) and short answer questions (interpretation of results). You will submit the R code with your interpretation through Canvas. Completed lab assignments are due at the *beginning* of the following lab session. Lab assignments will be considered late if they are submitted after the start of a lab session. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis and should be discussed in advance with the professor or lab instructor.

Exams. Students will take a midterm exam and a final exam. The exams will assess your knowledge of the material contained within the assigned readings, the lecture, and our course discussions. The

exams may consist of multiple-choice, problem-solving, and essay questions. I will provide more information as the exam dates approach. The final exam will be cumulative, though its content will be heavily weighted to the material covered between the midterm and final exams.

Research Paper. At the end of the class, you will be able to conduct your own research and are expected to turn in a complete research paper. You may choose any topic in political science that interests you, though I am happy to help you select a topic. Conducting individual research is a time-intensive process, and, to help you structure your time throughout the semester, you will complete a series of preliminary assignments. Instruction and requirements for each component of the research paper can be found on Canvas.

Extra Credit Participation. Helping others and seeking help are important components in learning, especially in learning programming skills. To this end, we will be using Piazza for questions and answers after class. Using Piazza will allow you to learn from other students' questions and allow you to help each other in the virtual environment. Rather than emailing questions to the teaching assistant and me, I encourage you to post your questions on Piazza and answer your peers' questions. Both the TA and I will regularly check the board and answer questions. If your questions do not get any responses from the classmates and us within 24 hours or if you need additional help, please email me or Ms.Jones. For each qualified question you post, you will earn 0.5 point with a maximum of 1 points per week. For each relevant answer you give, you will earn 1 points with a maximum of 2 points per week. At the end of the course, I will announce four awards with two recipients per award: *Best Question Award*, *Best Answer Award*, *Most Question Award*, and *Most Answer Award*. Each recipient can earn up to 2 awards. Each award worth 10 extra points. Your questions should be related to the substantive course content. For example, you can ask clarification questions about statistical concepts and ask help to debug an error in your code. Questions such as when and where we will hold class, and where to find course materials will not be count towards extra credit. You should not copy-paste your own R codes and homework answer when answering other students' questions.

You can sign up our class Piazza page at: https://piazza.com/uncc/fall2020/202080pols222000210056. You can also find Piazza on Canvas.

5 Grading Policy

Lecture & Lab Participation 70
Weekly Assignments 200
Midterm Exam 100
Final Exam 150
Research paper .....
- Part 1: Research Question, Literature Review 50
- Part 2: Part 1 and Theory, Hypotheses 80
- Part 3: Part 1, Part 2, and Design, Data, Variables, Descriptive Table 100
- Final: Combine and Revise Three parts, and Regression, Results, Conclusion 200

Presentation of research paper 50
Extra credit participation 65

1065 points possible out of 1000 points total

Points	Letter Grade
900 – 1000	A
800 – 900	B
700 – 800	C
600 – 700	D
0 – 600	F

6 How do I succeed?

While this course covers new and challenging statistical and computational materials, the actual math that we do in this class will not be harder than what you learned in middle school. My goal as your instructor is to make this material as easy for you to understand as possible. But I cant do that without your help. To succeed in this class, you must:

Attend and participate in class.

Do your best with the readings, and bring any questions that you have with you when you come to class. It is very important that you come to class prepared so you can get the most out of the lectures and are ready to ask (and answer) questions about the readings. If you ever have trouble with a reading, please dont hesitate to post your questions on Piazza and/or come to the office hours.

Come to office hours. Do not be shy about coming to office hours. Do not be shy about asking for help. Attending office hours does not mean that you are not smart; it simply means that you care enough about your performance to use the resources available to you!

Practice, Practice, and Practice! Practice is the only way to master statistics and programming. I recommend you to build a routine of coding every day or every other day. It does not need to be long. You will find that overall you need to spend less time on lab assignments if you keep practice frequently.

Plan ahead. Conducting individual research is time-intensive. After the second week of class, you should already start thinking about what research questions you are interested in and are able to complete within this semester.

7 General Policies and Expectations

RESPECT. In this course, we are learning challenging statistical and computational knowledge. We will also read and discuss political science research on sensitive and controversial topics. Everyone comes to this course with a different background and knowledge in both the statistics and the substantive topics. It is important that we all treat each other with the utmost respect. The conflict of ideas is encouraged and welcome. However, you should base your opinion on logic and empirical evidence, instead of beliefs and stereotypes. I will exercise my responsibility to manage the classroom so that ideas and arguments can proceed in an orderly fashion. You should expect that if your conduct during class seriously disrupts the atmosphere of mutual respect, you will not be permitted to participate further. Unwelcome conduct directed toward another person based upon that persons actual or perceived race, actual or perceived gender, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, disability, or veteran status, or for any other reason, may constitute a violation of University Policy 406, The Code of Student Responsibility. Any student suspected of engaging in such conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

WORKING TOGETHER. I encourage you to work together on the course materials and assignments. We learn from each other's questions and experiences. Moreover, there is no better way to master the materials than to explain to your peers. However, every keystroke that you type and every mark you make with a pen or pencil must be your own work. You **cannot** collaborate on the midterm and final exams.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS. Assignments not submitted by the assigned due date and time are late. All assignment deadlines are based on the Eastern Time Zone (ET), not your local time zone. Please be sure to pay close attention to any time differences if you are located in a different time zone. Given potential technical difficulties that may arise with things like your internet connection, I strongly recommend that you do not wait until the last moment to submit your assignments. Late submissions will be accepted; however, they will be subject to a 5% scores per day (including weekends) late penalty. Lab assignments submitted

after receiving answer sheet will not be graded.

EXTENSIONS. Extensions will be granted in only the most severe circumstances. If you foresee the need for an extension, one needs to be requested and granted at least 24 hours before the due date. No one is entitled to an extension; they will be offered only at my discretion.

ZOOM.

- Your audio will be muted upon entry into the classroom. During the lecture, you should keep your audio muted under most circumstances to prevent any ambient noise interrupting the class and prevent confusion if multiple students choose to speak simultaneously. If you have a question or comment, please use Zooms "raised hand symbol" and wait to be called upon.
- If your bandwidth allows, you might turn on your video during the lecture and lab. Note that if you do turn on your video, you and your background will be visible to the whole class. While it is optional, I encourage you to use the video feature during office hours and small group discussions (breakout room in zoom).
- Zoom class meetings are not public forums, and only registered students may attend. Do not share zoom links or share your account with anyone else.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY. All students are required to read and abide by the Code of Student Academic Integrity. Violations of the Code of Student Academic Integrity, including plagiarism, will result in disciplinary action as provided in the Code. Definitions and examples of plagiarism are set forth in the Code. The Code is available from the Dean of Students Office or online at https://legal.uncc.edu/policies/up-407.

All course work by students is to be done on an individual basis unless an instructor clearly states that an alternative is acceptable. The instructor and TA may ask students to produce identification at examinations and may require students to demonstrate that graded assignments completed outside of class are their own work. Any reference materials used in the preparation of any assignment must be explicitly cited. Students uncertain about proper citation are responsible for checking with their instructor.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS. Students in this course seeking accommodations for disabilities must first consult with the Office of Disability Services and follow the instructions of that office for obtaining accommodations. I will do everything I can to meet the requested accommodations.

PREFERRED GENDER PRONOUN. This course affirms people of all gender expressions and identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is indicated on the class roster, please let me know. Feel free to correct me on your preferred gender pronoun. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

8 Tentative Course Schedule

This schedule should be treated as tentative and flexible, given that we live in a time full of uncertainty. It may also be the case that it takes us more or less time for a particular topic than I have allotted here. We will adapt accordingly. In the event that deviations from this schedule are necessary, they will be announced in class and updated on Canvas. Additional readings to the textbook will be uploaded to Canvas at least one week before class.

Week 1: Introduction to Scientific Method

- **Sep.7 (M) Lab:** No Lab.
- **Sep.7 (M) Lecture:** Introduction, Syllabus, and Zoom Practice
  - **Reading:** Syllabus
- **Sep.9 (W) Lecture:** What is Science and What is Political Science
  - **Reading:** EPA Introduction pgs. xviii – xxii
  - **Reading:** William Roberts Clark, Matt Golder, and Sona Nadenichek Golder. 2017. *Principles of comparative politics.* CQ Press. Ch.1 (pgs.1-15) and Ch.2 (On Canvas)
  - **Reading (Optional):** Dean Knox and Jonathan Mummolo. July 15, 2020. "A widely touted study found no evidence of racism in police shootings. Its full of errors." *The Washington Post.* https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2020/07/15/police-shooting-study-retracted/
  - **Reading (Optional):** Ed Yong. April 7, 2016. "No, Wait, Short Conversations Really Can Reduce Prejudice."*The Atlantic.* https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2016/04/no-wait-short-conversations-really-can-reduce-prejudice/477105/
- **Sep.11 (F) Lecture:** Introduction to R and Rstudio
  - **Reading:** RCPA Introduction
  - **Reading:** RCPA Ch.1 only read pgs. 22-23: "*Additional Software for Working with R*"
  - **Due:** Post an introduction to Piazza and respond to one other student's post. (Extra credit, due before lecture starts.)

Week 2: Overview of Political Science Research Methods

- **Sep.14 (M) Lab:** Basic syntax in R
  - **Reading:** RCPA Introduction & Ch.1 *The R Companion Package*
- **Sep.14 (M) Lecture:** A Methodological Overview of Political Science Research and Designs
  - **Reading:** EPA Ch.4 *Research Design ...*(only read pgs.105-114.)
  - **Readings (Read Abstracts and Skim Structures):**
    - **Field Experiment:** Robert M Bond et al. 2012. "A 61-million-person experiment in social influence and political mobilization." *Nature* 489 (7415): 295–298
    - **Field Experiment, Elites as Subjects:** Edmund Malesky, Paul Schuler, and Anh Tran. 2012. "The adverse effects of sunshine: a field experiment on legislative transparency in an authoritarian assembly." *American Political Science Review:* 762–786
    - **Natural Experiment:** Daniel N Posner. 2004. "The political salience of cultural difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas are allies in Zambia and adversaries in Malawi." *American Political Science Review:* 529–545
    - **Formal Model and Experiment:** Matthew H Graham and Milan W Svolik. 2020. "Democracy in America? Partisanship, Polarization, and the Robustness of Support for Democracy in the United States." *American Political Science Review* 114 (2): 392–409
    - **Formal, Qualitative, and Quantitative:** Jesse Driscoll. 2012. "Commitment problems or bidding wars? Rebel fragmentation as peace building." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 56 (1): 118–149
    - **Computational/Big Data:** Gary King, Jennifer Pan, and Margaret E Roberts. 2013. "How censorship in China allows government criticism but silences collective expression." *American Political Science Review:* 326–343
  - **Optional Interactive Guide to Game Theory:** Case, Nicky. The Evolution of Trust. (A nice interactive guide to the game theory of how and why we trust each other. A repeated normal form game.)

- **Sep.16 (W) Lecture:** Empirical Research Process
  - **Reading:** EPA Ch.10 *Conducting Your Own Political Analysis*
  - **Reading:** Jim Walsh. 2006. "A Guide to Writing Literature Reviews in Political Science and Public Administration." https://politicalscience.uncc.edu/sites/politicalscience.uncc.edu/files/media/docs/litreviews.pdf
- **Sep.18 (F) Lecture:** Public Data sources and Load Data in R

Week 3: Concept and Measurement

Readings:

- EPA Ch. 1 *The Definition and Measurement of Concepts*
- William Roberts Clark, Matt Golder, and Sona Nadenichek Golder. 2017. *Principles of comparative politics.* CQ Press. Ch.5
- Seva Gunitsky. June 23, 2015. "How do you measure democracy?" The Washington Post, Monkey Cage.

- **Sep. 21 (M) Lab**: Load and Manipulate Data in R
  - **Due:** Lab 1 Assignment
- **Sep. 21 (M) Lecture:** Concept and Measurement
- **Sep. 23 (W) Lecture:** Library Session
- **Sep. 25 (F) Lecture:** Concept and Measurement

Week 4: Measuring and Describing Variables

Readings:

- EPA Ch. 2 *Measuring and Describing Variables*
- RCPA Ch. 2 *Descriptive Statistics*
- RCPA Ch. 3 *Transforming Variables*
- (Optional) DIgnazio, Catherine and Lauren Klein. 2020. "What Gets Counted Counts?" In Data Feminism. March 16.

- **Sep. 28 (M) Lab**:
- **Sep. 28 (M) Lecture:** No Class (Moving back to campus)
- **Sep. 30 (W) Lecture:** Describing Variables
  - **Due:** Lab 2 Assignment
- **Oct. 2 (F) Lecture:** Describe and Summarize Data in R

Week 5: From Theory to Hypotheses

- **Oct. 5 (M) Lab:** Describe and Summarize Data in R
- **Oct. 5 (M) Lecture:** Explanations and Hypotheses
  - **Reading**: EPA Ch. 3 *Proposing Explanations...*
  - **Optional Interactive Guide to Game Theory:** Case, Nicky. The Evolution of Trust. (A nice interactive guide to the game theory of how and why we trust each other. A repeated normal form game.)
- **Oct. 7 (W) Lecture:** Controlled comparison
  - **Reading**: EPA Ch. 5 *Making Controlled Comparisons*
  - **Due:** Research Paper Part 1 (Research Question and Literature Review)

  - **Due:** Lab 3 Assignment

- **Oct. 9 (F) Lecture:** Data manipulation and comparison in R
  - **Reading:** RCPA Ch. 4 *Making Comparisons*

Week 6: Review and Exam 1

- **Oct. 12 (M) Lab**: Review
  - **Due:** Lab 4 Assignment
- **Oct. 12 (M) Lecture:** Review
- **Oct. 14 (W): Midterm exam during class time**
- **Oct. 16 (F) Lecture:** Data visualization in R

Week 7: Foundations of Statistic Inference

Reading:

- EPA Ch. 6 *Foundations of Statistic Inference*
- RCPA Ch. 6 *Making Inferences about Sample Means*
- Kostanca Dhima and Matt Golder. 2020. "Secularization Theory and Religion." *Politics and Religion:* 1–17

- **Oct. 19 (M) Lab:** Data visualization
- **Oct. 19 (M) Lecture:**
- **Oct. 21 (W) Lecture:**
- **Oct. 23 (F) Lecture:** Statistic Inference in R
  - **Due:** Research Paper Part 2 (Part 1 and Theory, Hypotheses)

Week 8: Significance Testing and Association

Reading:

- EPA Ch. 7 *Test of Significance ...*
- RCPA Ch. 6 *Making Inferences about Sample Means*
- Yaoyao Dai and Luwei Luqiu. 2020. "Camouflaged propaganda: A survey experiment on political native advertising." *Research & Politics* 7 (3): 2053168020935250

- **Oct. 26 (M) Lab**: Statistic Inference in R
  - **Due:** Lab 5 Assignment (10 points assignment)
- **Oct. 26 (M) Lecture:**
- **Oct. 28 (W) Lecture:**
- **Oct. 30 (F) Lecture:** t-test in R

Week 9: Significance Testing and Association

Reading:

- EPA Ch. 7 *Test of Significance ...*
- RCPA Ch. 7 *Chi-Square and Measures of Association*

- **Nov. 2 (M) Lab:** t-test in R
  - **Due:** Lab 6 Assignment

- **Nov. 2 (M) Lecture:**
- **Nov. 4 (W) Lecture:**
- **Nov. 6 (F) Lecture:** Chis-Square test and measures of association in R

Week 10: Correlation and Linear Regression

Reading:
- EPA Ch. 8 *Correlation and Linear Regression*
- RCPA Ch. 8 *Correlation and Linear Regression*

- **Nov. 9 (M) Lab:** Chis-Square test and measures of association in R
  - **Due:** Lab 7 Assignment
- **Nov. 9 (M) Lecture:** Regression
- **Nov. 11 (W) Lecture:** Regression
- **Nov. 13 (F) Lecture:** Correlation and Linear Regression in R

Week 11: Linear Regression

Reading:
- EPA Ch. 8 *Correlation and Linear Regression*
- RCPA Ch. 9 *Visualizing Correlation and Regression Analysis*

- **Nov. 16 (M) Lab:** Correlation and Linear Regression in R
  - **Due:** Lab 8 Assignment
- **Nov. 16 (M) Lecture:** Bivariate regression and Model Fit
- **Nov. 18 (W) Lecture:** Regression and Interpretation
- **Nov. 20 (F) Lecture:** Estimating and Visualizing Regression Analysis in R

Week 12: Multiple Regression

Reading:
- EPA Ch. 8 *Correlation and Linear Regression*
- RCPA Ch. 9 *Visualizing Correlation and Regression Analysis*

- **Nov. 23 (M) Lab:** Visualizing Correlation and Regression Analysis in R
  - **Due:** Research Paper Part 3 (Part 1 & 2, Design, Data, Descriptive Statistics)
- **Nov. 23 (M) Lecture:** Categorical IV and Statistical Control
- **Nov. 25 (W) Lecture:** Multiple Regression in R
- **Nov. 27 (F): No Class – Thanksgiving break.**

Week 13: Logistic Regression

Reading:
- EPA Ch. 9 *Logistic Regression*
- RCPA Ch. 10 *Logistic Regression*

- **Nov. 30 (M) Lab**: Multiple Regression in R
  - **Due:** Lab 9 Assignment

- **Nov. 30 (M) Lecture:** Logistic Regression
- **Dec. 2 (W) Lecture:** Logistic Regression
- **Dec. 4 (F) Lecture:** Logistic Regression in R & Final paper

Week 14: Final Project Presentation

- **Dec. 7 (M) Lab:** Logistic Regression
  - **Due:** Lab 10 Assignment
- **Dec. 7 (M) Lecture:** Group 1 Presentation and Discussion
- **Dec. 9 (W) Lecture:** Group 2 Presentation and Discussion
- **Dec. 11 (F) Lecture:** Group 3 Presentation and Discussion

Week 15: Final Exam

- **Dec. 14 (M) Lab:** Q & A
  - **Due:** Lab 11 Assignment
- **Dec. 14 (M):** Final Review

Dec.21 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.: Final Exam

Dec.21 at 11:59 p.m.: Final Paper Due

9 Additional Information

Counseling and Mental Health Services. It is common for college students to experience challenges that may interfere with academic success such as academic stress, sleep problems, juggling responsibilities, life events, relationship concerns, or feelings of anxiety, hopelessness, or depression. If you or a friend is struggling, we strongly encourage you to seek support. Helpful, effective resources are available on campus at no additional cost.

Visit the Counseling and Psychological Services website at caps.uncc.edu for information about the broad range of confidential on-campus mental health services, online health assessments, hours, and additional information.

Call CAPS at (704) 687-0311 if interested in scheduling an appointment with a counselor. After-hours crisis support is also available through this phone number.

Title IX Statement. UNC Charlotte is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these incidents, know that you are not alone. UNC Charlotte has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

Please be aware that many UNC Charlotte employees, including all faculty members, are considered Responsible Employees who are required to relay any information or reports of sexual misconduct they receive to the Title IX Coordinator. This means that if you tell me about a situation involving sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, I must report the information to the Title IX Coordinator. Although I have to report the situation, you will still have options about how your case will be handled, including whether or not you wish to pursue a formal

complaint. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources you need.

If you wish to speak to someone confidentially, you can contact any of the following on-campus resources, who are not required to report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator: (1) University Counseling Center (counselingcenter.uncc.edu, 7-0311); (2) Student Health Center (studenthealth.uncc.edu, 7-7400); or (3) Center for Wellness Promotion (wellness.uncc.edu, 7-7407). Additional information about your options is also available at titleix.uncc.edu under the "Students" tab.

Political Science Honors Program. If you earn an A in POLS 2220 Research Methods and you meet minimum GPA requirements (3.5 in Political Science, 3.25 overall), you will be eligible for admission into the Political Science Honors Program. Students in this program are invited to special events throughout the year, including lunches with guest speakers, panels on applying to graduate school, and "meet the faculty" sessions. In order to graduate with the honors designation affixed on the transcript, POLS Honors students must complete a two-course honors thesis sequence: one semester to write the proposal (including literature review and research design) and another semester to complete and defend the thesis. For more information about the Political Science Honors Program, please contact Dr. Whitaker at BWhitaker@uncc.edu.

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