**Week 2**

**In class notes**

**01/19/2020**

Professor to show where the data set is located.

* General channel in the files.

Walk through a hypothesis, how do we identify variables, operationalize them, etc.

* First, have a well constructed hypothesis.
* Two groups of congressional background, rich and poor. They will vote differently on economic topics based on their backgrounds.
* Latent concepts: Wealth and economic rights. Concepts are difficult to measure.
* How to operationalize it?
  + You would have to specify what debts we are subtracting.
  + Assets – we would need to define this.
* Quality of data:
  + Is it reliable? Are the measures consistent.
* Validity:
  + Construct: Does the construct by which we are conceptualizing capture what we are trying to measure? “economic rights” – it is not a well-tailored conceptualization. Is it getting to the theoretical core of what we are trying to measure?
  + Measurement validity: is the way that we are capturing what we are trying to measure make sense? For instance, if we did not take into consideration inflation.

Homework:

* How are we communicating with each other, when are we meeting, generally what is our plan to work as a team.
* Take one of the hypothesis of the group.
* Get together and look at your homework. Pick one of your hypothesis and go through this process.
* This will be what we are seeking to study this semester.