

# Experimental Social Science - Lab and Field Experiments

University of Turku  
INVEST  
Turku, Finland

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## *General Overview*

**Professor:** Héctor Bahamonde, PhD.  
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**w:** [www.HectorBahamonde.com](http://www.HectorBahamonde.com)  
**Office Hours:** Schedule time with me [here](#).

**Place:** Pub-299.  
**Time:** Mondays at 12-14.

**Course website:** [Moodle](#).

**Program:** Master of Social Sciences, University of Turku.  
**Semester:** Fall.

## *Objectives*

Students will learn to design experiments. Students will learn to understand how to gather experimental data and how various experimental designs relate to different statistical methods. Students will learn to critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different experimental designs. Students will learn how new research questions and experimental designs build on the existing literature and generate cumulative scientific knowledge. After the course, students should know how to design meaningful experiments and draft implementation and analysis plans to run the experiments in practice. Students will understand the connection between their experimental design and statistical tools that they have learned in their statistics courses.

## *Academic Integrity*

I expect nothing but the best out of my students.

- I expect students to do their reading *before* class.
- Practical exercises should be turned in *before* class.
- I usually don't answer emails during weekends.

🚫 Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Make sure you follow the University's rules and definitions of plagiarism. Also, make sure you know how to cite your work.

🚫 I won't accept late work.

## Evaluations

### 1. *Reaction Paper*: TBA.

- ◇ While it shouldn't be necessary, you *may* use resources on the Internet to answer the questions.

## Schedule

### 1. **Survey Experiments**

#### ◇ Overview:

- Brian Gaines, James Kuklinski, and Paul Quirk. 2007. "The Logic of the Survey Experiment Reexamined." *Political Analysis* 15 (1): 1–20
- Kevin Mullinix et al. 2015. "The Generalizability of Survey Experiments." *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 2 (2): 109–138

#### ◇ Application #1—conjoint experiments:

- Kirk Bansak et al. 2021. "Conjoint Survey Experiments." In *Advances in Experimental Political Science*, 19–41. Cambridge University Press
- Jens Hainmueller, Daniel Hopkins, and Teppei Yamamoto. 2014. "Causal Inference in Conjoint Analysis: Understanding Multidimensional Choices via Stated Preference Experiments." *Political Analysis* 22 (1): 1–30

#### ◇ Application #2—list experiments:

- Graeme Blair, Kosuke Imai, and Jason Lyall. 2014. "Comparing and Combining List and Endorsement Experiments: Evidence from Afghanistan." *American Journal of Political Science* 58 (4): 1043–1063
- Hector Bahamonde. 2022. "Still for Sale: The Micro-Dynamics of Vote Selling in the United States, Evidence from a List Experiment." *Acta Politica* 57 (1): 73–95

### 2. **Natural Experiments**

- Jens Hainmueller and Dominik Hangartner. 2013. "Who Gets a Swiss Passport? A Natural Experiment in Immigrant Discrimination." *American Political Science Review* 107 (01): 159–187

## References

- Bahamonde, Hector. 2022. "Still for Sale: The Micro-Dynamics of Vote Selling in the United States, Evidence from a List Experiment." *Acta Politica* 57 (1): 73–95.
- Bansak, Kirk, Jens Hainmueller, Daniel Hopkins, and Teppei Yamamoto. 2021. "Conjoint Survey Experiments." In *Advances in Experimental Political Science*, 19–41. Cambridge University Press.
- Blair, Graeme, Kosuke Imai, and Jason Lyall. 2014. "Comparing and Combining List and Endorsement Experiments: Evidence from Afghanistan." *American Journal of Political Science* 58 (4): 1043–1063.
- Gaines, Brian, James Kuklinski, and Paul Quirk. 2007. "The Logic of the Survey Experiment Reexamined." *Political Analysis* 15 (1): 1–20.
- Hainmueller, Jens, and Dominik Hangartner. 2013. "Who Gets a Swiss Passport? A Natural Experiment in Immigrant Discrimination." *American Political Science Review* 107 (01): 159–187.
- Hainmueller, Jens, Daniel Hopkins, and Teppei Yamamoto. 2014. "Causal Inference in Conjoint Analysis: Understanding Multidimensional Choices via Stated Preference Experiments." *Political Analysis* 22 (1): 1–30.
- Mullinix, Kevin, Thomas Leeper, James Druckman, and Jeremy Freese. 2015. "The Generalizability of Survey Experiments." *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 2 (2): 109–138.