Role of Experiments in Democracy & Project Opportunities (SOC 412)

Week 4 Lecture 7

Sherrerd Hall 306



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What we will cover today

Discuss Final Projects and Teams

Discuss the role of Experiments in Democracy

- Libertarian Paternalism (allowing individual choice while steering people in a direction)
- Should Experiments Influence Elections?
- Should policies be implemented *without* experiments?

Final Project

Final Project (due in May)

- (team) Experiment design
 - (potentially results/demo, etc)
- (team) Presentation of project
- (individual) An essay that reflects on your team's experiment in light of an issue we have discussed: (IRB, corporate accountability, role of experiments in democracy, consent, etc)

Final Project: Midterm

Team Project Proposal (Midterm)

- · (team) Draft due March 8th at 5pm
- (team) Final proposal due March 14th at 9pm
- (individual) A short proposal for what your individual essay might be, due March 14 at 9pm

Topic Ideas For Your Final Individual Essay

Write about your experiment in light of a class discussion topic

Libertarian Paternalism

Consent

Research Accountability

Research Transparency

& Privacy

Corporate Accountability

External validity

Replication

Explanation & Description

Advancing Science and

Pragmatic Knowledge

What Makes a Good Midterm

- Your team should meet with me in office hours
- The proposal should include:
 - A description of the goals of the project
 - A list of people who are key to your project
 - A bibliography of some readings that you plan to do
 - A timeline

Final Project Teams

Three teams of 4, a team of 3, and a team of 2

bit.ly/soc412-19-teams

Group proposals due Thursday (Feb 28)

Final decisions on March 4

The best teams will have:

- Balanced skills
- Regular time to meet outside of class
- Have at least 2 people in the same precept