

Scope and Methods of Political Science

This course provides an overview of quantitative research methods and discusses their applications in political science, and you will learn how to conduct regression analysis in R. You will learn key concepts in data analysis and quantitative methods so that you can conduct your own social science research and be a critical reader of news articles and published work. These skills will make you more competitive in job searches and in your future work. Students must be junior and senior PSC majors, Public Policy majors, or Public Policy minors. There are no prerequisites for this course.

By the end of the semester, you should be able to:

1. Define and understand important statistical concepts and methods.
2. Use the R programming language to complete problem sets and analyze survey data.
3. Conduct and interpret a public opinion survey.
4. Interpret and evaluate statistical concepts and output in scholarly work, policy making, and entertainment media.