

PS 120 Politics of the World
Discussion Section 2

Important Concepts:

Dependent variable	Theory
Independent variable	Hypothesis
Confounding/intervening variable	Hypothesis Testing
Correlation	Mill's Method of Agreement
Control Variable	Mill's Method of Difference
Spurious Correlation	
Causality	
Endogeneity	
Falsifiability	
Scientific Methods	

Questions:

1. What does it mean that a theory must be falsifiable?
2. What are the differences between:
 - Dependent variable?
 - Independent variable?
 - Control variable?
 - Intervening variables?
3. What is a spurious correlation?
4. What is endogeneity?
5. What is the Mill's method of agreement/difference?

The Majoritarian vs. Consensus Model (Lijphart 2012)			
Majoritarian characteristic	United Kingdom	How is this different in the U.S (Consensus Model)	Pros/cons of these characteristics
Concentration of executive power in one-party and bare-majority cabinets			
Cabinet dominance			
Two-party system			
Majoritarian and disproportional system of elections			
Interest group pluralism			
Unitary and centralized government			
Concentration of legislative power in a unicameral legislature			
Constitution flexibility			
Absence of judicial review			
A central bank controlled by the executive			