

# POL3079 Lab1

26/11/2018

- Saying hi
- Polling about current knowledge
- Data demo

# Points of contact

Office hours T1:      **Tuesday**      12:15--1:15 PM Clayden 1.03

Stats helpdesk: **Tuesday**      4:30--6:30 PM Old library 128

**Friday**      4:30--6:30 PM Old library 128

**Appointment only.** [statshelpdesk.youcanbook.me](https://statshelpdesk.youcanbook.me)

P2P drop in:

<https://socialsciences.exeter.ac.uk/q-step/study/resources/>

## Aim of lab component

Research paper support, 50%, 3,800 words. **Due week 12**

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- Dataset description & citation
- Appropriate descriptive statistics
- Descriptive statistics interpreted
- Bivariate table or plot?
- Test statistics appropriate
- Test statistics correctly carried out
- Results interpreted

## Schedule (provisional)

- Lab 1: overview of data sources, key questions
- Lab 2: descriptive statistics: writing descriptives efficiently
- Lab 3: test statistics: correlations, t-tests, chi-squared tests.  
warning: may *sound* basic. It's still important.
- Lab 4: test statistics: regression-type models
- Lab 5: test statistics: regression-type

# Lab notes

no need to replicate information on the slides  
note anything that's useful  
include critical reflections, questions

# Polling

- Research papers (on qstep modules?)
- Qstep students/Data analysis modules
- Confidence in
  - descriptive statistics, efficient write-up
  - t-test
  - regression analysis
    - bivariate, multivariate
  - regression assumptions
  - logistic regression
  - ANOVA etc.
  - longitudinal data analysis
  - multilevel modeling

# Polling (cont)

- Research papers (on qstep modules?)
- Qstep students/Data analysis modules
- Confidence in
  - descriptive statistics, efficient write-up
  - t-test
  - regression analysis
    - bivariate, multivariate
  - regression assumptions
  - logistic regression
  - ANOVA etc.
  - longitudinal data analysis
  - multilevel modeling



# Data demo

Opensecrets.org

Fec.gov

Cms.gov "open payments"

Followthemoney.org

Query: house elections, abortion-related spending, by party and  
winning status of candidate

DIME database

# Group tasks

I. Formulate **2 research questions** that may be answered with that data

## II. Describe data

Unit of analysis (if disaggregated)

Inclusion criteria interesting? Missing data?

Time frame

Variable breadth (whether or not using them)

Number of observations

Citation