**Using the *Quantitative Research Methods* Textbook and Lab Guide**

**QRM Textbook**

The Quantitative Research Methods for Political Science, Public Policy and Public Administration (With Applications in R) e-book is an open-source textbook available [here](https://bookdown.org/josiesmith/qrmbook/).

When using the textbook, it will likely make sense to read the e-book in its compiled html format. However, the R Markdown files are available in the GitHub repository as well if you prefer.

**Lab Guide**

The *Lab Guide* is a companion to the textbook and includes guided exercises utilizing RStudio. While the complete lab guide is available [here](https://bookdown.org/josiesmith/labbook/), we recommend using the “raw” .Rmd files instead. These materials are available in our GitHub repository, [here](https://github.com/ripberjt/qrmlabs/tree/master/Raw_labs).

To use the labs as intended, you will need to download the raw .Rmd files and the associated datasets from the repository. The easiest way to do this is to “fork” the project over to your own account. To do so, you should

1. Create your own GitHub account
2. Open the “raw .rmd” folder in our Github repository
3. Click the fork icon in the upper right-hand corner.

This will clone the project to your own account and allow you to use the files without making changes to the originals. After you download the labs, you can then either upload them to your course server, or simply save them for your own use.

**R Set-up**

If this is your first time using R, the textbook appendix includes a complete guide for downloading R and RStudio. Additionally, the first chapter of the lab guide briefly explains the difference between R, RStudio, and R Markdown, as well as how to navigate the RStudio interface.

To install the packages necessary for the labs, you should run the “setup” file.