research design; due in 2 weeks

[version: Wednesday 9th October, 2024 09:00]

1. Design an experiment (or natural experiment) in public administration, ideally in the field of your research interest, as always, be concise and specific! [remember experiment requires random assignment, but can have a quasi experiment, like before after; or even a nice 'natural experiment' like covid19 being a natural, random disaster; still as per q, do think about a real experiment for the future–almost for sure it will be implausible for capstone, but you may be able to do one later on, and you should–the holy grail of research, the only way to find causality with confidence]
2. Give a detailed example of INUS condition in public administration, ideally in the field of your research interest.
3. Pick one published peer-reviewed article that is of interest to you (use google scholar)and discuss briefly (say a paragraph) internal and external validity; if you pick paper, make sure it is not too complicated/mathematical, and that it has some research method in it (some papers don't), if not 100% sure, email me!

TIP: kill 2 birds with one stone, and combine ps3 and ps4: that is focus on research design in your own project! (of course if you combine ps3 and ps4, make sure you have covered all the above items in your combined ps); also: you don't have to actually carry out experiment, just need to discuss in great detail how would you go about conducting it. But more practical if you can design something that you can actually carry out for your capstone.

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general directions (always the same):

- ps is due in Canvass by the beginning of the class
- keep it short; max: 5 single spaced pages; typically way less, say 1 or 2
- if you are stuck, email me early! also email if you want some feedback and make sure you are on the right track, etc
- show your work, a "naked" number won't do! unless indicated otherwise, always do calculations by hand
- likewise, numbers should be interpreted–we are not only interested in calculating values of interest, but we are interested in their meaning! whenever you calculate your final quantity if interest, interpret it! do interpret!! do make sure to make sense of the stats you've produced!!
- if your handwriting is bad, please type
- i may want to discuss your assignment in class, which should be beneficial to you and give you more feedback; if however, you'd like to keep it private, let me know!
- numbers in brackets are relative importance of each item for grading; adds up to 10
- always provide source of the original data, eg url, dataset name and brief description