

**Political Science 747
Research Methods in World Politics
Spring, 2005**

**Prof. Brian M. Pollins
204B Mershon and 2008 Derby Hall
292-4478 (Derby)
292-7563 (Mershon)
pollins.1@osu.edu**

Office Hrs.: W 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Course Objectives: What does *good* research look like? This course is designed to develop students' ability to recognize good research and bad research when they see it, so that they may be able to conduct more of the former and less of the latter in their own work. Toward this end, we will look at a number of works within the four main field areas offered within I.R. (Transnational, Foreign Policy, Conflict and Peace, and I.P.E.). Within each of these four areas, we will examine a variety of works which employ different methods to gain insight into the chosen research question. These methods will include Case Study, Formal Theory, Statistical Analysis and Simulation (both macro and AI). The first two weeks of the class will be spent in developing criteria for research quality which is *not* dependent on the particular method chosen.

Student Responsibilities: A research proposal (a précis of this proposal is due at midterm) and four article reviews (details given in class). Also a strong emphasis on class participation. Assignment weightings will be: Précis (10%) Final Proposal (40%) Four reviews (25% total) and Class Participation (25%).

Readings: We lead off with King, Keohane and Verba *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*, Princeton, 1994 (paper), several critics of “KKV”, and Imre Lakatos and Alan Musgrave (eds.) *Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge*, Cambridge U. Press, 1970 (paper). Available at SBX only. As the great majority of readings are articles, these will be placed in the Political Science Reading Room on the 2nd floor of Derby Hall.

SYLLABUS

I. How Do We Know Good Research When We See It? Developing Criteria.

Required:

King, Keohane and Verba (1994) *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapters 1 and 2 during week #1, Chapters 3-6 during week #2.

Pollins, Brian M. (2002) “Beyond Logical Positivism: Reframing King, Keohane and Verba’s *Designing Social Inquiry*” committed to a volume edited by Richard Ned Lebow and Mark Lichbach *Theory and Evidence*.

Laitin, David D., et.al. (1995) "The Qualitative-Quantitative Disputation: Gary King, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba's *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*", *American Political Science Review* 89:2 (June) pp.454-481.

Hopf, Ted (1998) "The Promise of Constructivism in International Relations Theory", *International Security*, v.23, no.1 (Summer) pp.171-200.

Lakatos, Imre (1970) "Falsification and the Methodology of Scientific Research Programmes" in Lakatos and Musgrave (eds.) *Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge*, pp. 91-188.

George, Alexander L. (1979) "Case Studies and Theory Development: The Method of Structured, Focused Comparison" in Paul Gordon Lauren (ed). *Diplomacy: New Approaches in History, Theory and Policy*. New York: Free Press. pp.43-68.

McKeown, Timothy (1999) "Case Studies and the Statistical Worldview: Review of King Keohane and Verba's *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*" *International Organization* 53:1 (Winter) pp.161-190.

Suggested:

Hopf, Ted, Fritz V. Kratochwil and R. Ned Lebow (2001) "Reflexivity: Method and Evidence", *Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*. New York: Elsevier Science Ltd. (forthcoming).

Zinnes, Dina (1976) "The Problem of Cumulation" in James N. Rosenau (ed.) *In Search of Global Patterns*, pp.161-166.

Ball, Terence (1976) "From Paradigms to Research Programs: Toward a Post-Kuhnian Political Science," *American Journal of Political Science*, v.20, no.1 (February) pp.151-177.

Additional readings found in Lakatos and Musgrave (eds.) (1970) *Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge*, especially those by Popper and Masterman, and the opening piece by Kuhn.

Moon, Donald (1975) "Strategies of Political Inquiry" in Fred Greenstein and Nelson Polsby (eds.) *Handbook of Political Science*.

II. Research in International Political Economy

The Case Study Method

Rudolph, Christopher (2003) "Security and the Political Economy of International Migration" *American Political Science Review*. Vol.97, no.4, pp.603-620. [added 2005]

Grugel, Jean B. (2004) "New Regionalism and Modes of Governance: Comparing US and EU Strategies in Latin America" *European Journal of International Relations*. Vol. 10, no.4 (December) pp.603-626. [added 2005]

Data Analytic Methods

Feng, Yi. 2001. "Political Freedom, Political Instability, and Policy Uncertainty: A Study of Political Institutions and Private Investment in Developing Countries". *International Studies Quarterly* 45:2 (June), 271-94.

McGillvray, Fiona, and Alastair Smith (2004) "The Impact of Leadership Turnover on Trading Relations Between States" *International Organization*. Vol 58, no.3, pp.567-601? [added 2005]

Formal Methods

Drezner, Daniel W. (1998) "Conflict Expectations and the Paradox of Economic Coercion." *International Studies Quarterly*, December, 42:4, 709-731.

Simulation

Pollins, Brian M. (1985) "Breaking Trade Dependency: Third World Proposals for Alternative Trade Regimes in a Global Simulation" by Brian M. Pollins, *International Studies Quarterly* v. 29, no. 3, (September), pp. 287-312.

III. Research in Conflict and Peace

The Case Study Method

Arreguin-Toft, Ivan (2001) "How the weak win wars". *International Security* (Summer), Vol 26:1, 93-128.

Edelstein, D.M. (2004) "Occupational Hazards: Why Military Occupations Succeed or Fail," *International Security*, 29:1, pp. 49-91. [added 2005]

Data Analytic Methods

Leeds, B.A. (2003) "Do Alliances Deter Military Aggression?: The Influence of Alliances on the Initiation of Militarized Interstate Disputes," *American Journal of Political Science*, 47:3, pp. 427-439. [added 2005]

Fearon, James D. and David D. Laitin. 2003. Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War. *American Political Science Review*. 97:1 (February) pp. 75-90.

Formal Methods

Kydd, Andrew (2000) "Arms Races and Arms Control: Modeling the Hawks' Perspective," *American Journal of Political Science*, 44:2, pp. 228-244. [added 2005]

Gartzke, Erik and Kristian S. Gleditsch (2004) "Why Democracies May Actually Be Less Reliable Allies," *American Journal of Political Science*, 48:4, pp. 775-795. [added 2005]

Simulation

Simon, Marc V. And Harvey Starr (1996) "Extraction, Allocation, and the Rise and Decline of States: A Simulation Analysis of Two-Level Security Management" *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 40, No. 2. (June), pp. 272-297.

Cederman, Lars-Erik and Kristian S. Gleditsch (2004) "Conquest and Regime Change: An Evolutionary Model of the Spread of Democracy and Peace, *International Studies Quarterly* 48:3, pp. 603-629.

IV. Research in Foreign Policy and Decision Making

The Case Study Method

Auerswald, David P. (2004) "Explaining Wars of Choice: An Integrated Decision Model of NATO Policy in Kosovo," *International Studies Quarterly* v. 48, no.3, pp.631-662. [added 2005]

Kaarbo, Juliet (1996) "Power and Influence in Foreign Policy Decision Making: The Role of Junior Coalition Partners in German and Israeli Foreign Policy" *International Studies Quarterly* 40, 501-530.

Data Analytic Methods

Jacobs, Lawrence R. and Benjamin I. Page (2005) "Who Influences U.S. Foreign Policy?" *American Political Science Review* 99:1 (June) pp. 107-123. [added 2005]

Davis, David R. and Will H. Moore (1997) "Ethnicity Matters: Transnational Ethnic Alliances and Foreign Policy Behavior" *International Studies Quarterly* 41, 171-184.

Formal Methods

Schultz, Kenneth (2001) "Looking for Audience Costs" *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, v. 45, no. 1, pp. 32-60. [added 2005]

Smith Alastair (1998) "International Crises and Domestic Politics" *American Political Science Review* 92:3, pp. 623-638. [added 2005]

Simulation

Geva Nehemia, James Mayhar and J. Mark Skorick (2000) "The Cognitive Calculus of Foreign Policy Decision Making: An Experimental Assessment" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* v.44 no.4 (August) pp. 447-471.

Sylvan, Donald A. and Stuart J. Thorson (1992) "Ontologies, Problem Representation and the Cuban Missile Crisis" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* v.36 no.4 (December) pp. 709-732. [added 2005]

V. Research in International Organization and Transnational Relations

The Case Study Method

Solingen, Etel (1994) "The Political Economy of Nuclear Restraint" *International Security* v.19 no.2 (Fall) pp.126-169. [added 2005]

Barnett, Michael (1993) "Institutions, Roles and Disorder: The Case of the Arab State System" *International Studies Quarterly* 37:3, 271-296.

Data Analytic Methods

Enders, Walter and Todd Sandler (2002) "Patterns of Transnational Terrorism:1970-1999: Alternative Time Series Estimates" *International Studies Quarterly* 46: 145-165. [added 2005]

Pevehouse, Jon C. (2002) "Democracy from the Outside In? International Organizations and Democratization" *International Organization* 56, 3 (Summer) pp. 515-549. [added 2005]

Formal Methods

Verdier, Daniel (2004) "It's the Evidence, Stupid! Bush and Saddam in a Tale of Moral Hazard and Adverse Selection" Unpublished manuscript, Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University (November). 49p. [added 2005]

Kydd, Andrew (2001) "Trust Building, Trust Breaking: The Dilemma of NATO Enlargement"
International Organization 55, 4 (Autumn) pp. 801-828. [added 2005]

Simulation

Axelrod, Robert (1997) "The Dissemination of Culture: A Model with Local Convergence and
Global Polarization" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41:2, 203-226.

Cederman, Lars-Erik, (2001) "Modeling the Democratic Peace as a Kantian Selection Process"
Journal of Conflict Resolution 45:4, 470-502.