

社會科學研究方法
SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODS
Fall Semester, 2012

課程類別 講授類
必選修 必修
系所 中國與亞太區域研究所 政經組碩、博士班
授課教師 郭育仁 yujenkuo@mail.nsysu.edu.tw
學分 3
教室

課程大綱

透過相關的閱讀與討論，本課程將教導學生一步步進行屬於自己的學術研究。從發掘疑問與研究議題、收集資料與相關的論文、閱讀與批判資料、到學習如何建立研究與理論架構，並大量收集證據來檢驗所建立之理論與主要論點。最後亦將練習如何將論點與證據清楚呈現於報告與論文的撰寫。

課程目標

- (一) 使學生了解學術研究的過程。
- (二) 教導學生收集研究資料之方法。
- (三) 訓練學生客觀評估現有學術研究的貢獻與缺點。
- (四) 引導學生建立自己的研究與理論架構。
- (五) 使學生練習將論點與證據清楚呈現於報告與論文的撰寫

授課方式

講授與研究建立之示範。

評分方式

出席	10%
課堂討論	10%
作業三次	20%
課堂報告二次	20%
期中報告	20%
期末報告	20%

Participation

includes attendances, reading, as well as regular engagements with discussion during the semester.

Midterm report

is a complete research proposal on the research filed and topic you pick at the beginning of this class. Midterm is due by **noon November 21**. Here, complete proposal includes your research questions, research methods, issue background introduction, literature review, your initial argument and hypothesis, and your directions toward the end of semester in order to complete a term paper. The usual length is 15-25 pages.

Presentation

Students are required to give two presentations on any of the scheduled topics of this course. Presentation is one and half hour in length and has to cover all the readings of the chosen week. The presenter will also be responsible for leading class discussion and answering questions. Please email me your PPT file for grading no later than Monday noon.

Term paper

will encourage independent research that looks more deeply at research questions raised from the course or any topic within the broad scope of social science that interests you. You should consult with me on choice of topic. The usual length is 25-35 pages and please follow the writing format and style of 遠景季刊. It is due **by noon of January 16**. Please **DO NOT ask for an extension**.

課業討論時間

週二、三: 11:50-13:50, 研究室: 日本研究中心

教科書〔請尊重智慧財產權，不可非法影印〕

Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams, "The Craft of Research", Third edition, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2008.

博班

Janet Buttolph Johnson, Richard A. Joslyn, and H.T. Reynolds, "Political Science Research Methods," Washington D.C.: CQ Press, 2001.

John M. Swales and Christine B. Feak, "Academic Writing for Graduate Students: A Course for Nonnative Speaker of English," University of Michigan, 1994.

課程進度

09/19 Introduction

Self-introduction, course overview, forming groups, and sign up for presentations.

09/26 Research, Researchers, and Readers

BCW, Chapter 1 and 2.

JJR, Chapter 1: Introduction

產業經濟與趨勢研究中心專題演講

題目：「為德國經濟富裕帶來動源的創新體系」，王寶苑研究員。

「標竿中國大陸國際研發合作模式 探討兩岸共同研發之可行性」，

黃美玲副研究員。

10/03 Asking questions, finding answers: from topics to problems

BCW, Chapter 3 and 4.

JJR, Chapter 2: Studying Politics Scientifically

10/10 National Holiday, No Class!!!

Topic and Research Question Discussions (HW-1 Due!)

10/17 Asking questions, finding answers: from problems to sources

BCW, Chapter 5 and 6.

JJR, Chapter 3: Hypotheses, Concepts, and Variables

10/24 Making a claim and supporting it: making claims

BCW, Chapter 7 and 8.

JJR, Chapter 4: Measurement

10/31 Making a claim and supporting it: assembling reasons and evidence

BCW, Chapter 9 and 10.

Argument and Proposal Discussions (HW-2 Due!)

JJR, Chapter 5: Research Design

11/07 Making a claim and supporting it: Warrants

BCW, Chapter 11.

JJR, Chapter 6: Literature Review

產業經濟與趨勢研究中心專題演講，題目待通知。

11/14 Planning, drafting, and revising: planning and drafting
BCW, Chapter 12 and 13.
JJR, Chapter 7: Sampling

11/21 **Mid-term Report Due. No Class Today!**

Turn in your report to TA by noon Today!

11/28 Planning, drafting, and revising: revising and communicating
BCW, Chapter 14 and 15.
JJR, Chapter 8: Empirical Observation

12/05 Planning, drafting, and revising: writing and style
BCW, Chapter 16.
JJR, Chapter 9: Document Analysis

12/12 Revising Style
BCW, Chapter 17.
JJR, Chapter 10: Interview and Survey

12/19 Some last considerations: the ethics of research
BCW, Chapter 18.
JJR, Chapter 11: Univariate Data Analysis

12/26 **Research Paper Discussions (HW-3 Due!)**

Please prepare your research plan for discussion.
JJR, Chapter 12: Bivariate Data Analysis

01/02 Conclusions and Paper Discussions.
Please prepare your paper draft for discussion.
JJR, Chapter 13: Multivariate Data Analysis

01/09 Conclusions and Paper Discussions.
Please prepare your paper draft for discussion.
JJR, Chapter 14: Research Report

01/16 **Final Report Due!!!**

Please turn in your paper to TA by noon. Late submission is subject to penalty.

Mid-term Report: Your Research Proposal

Due: November 21, 2012

Assignment: Develop your own research proposal on the issues in your professional interests by finding puzzle, developing research questions, hypothesis, and decide your research methods.

Step One: Find Research Questions (Examples)

Ask yourself which political actor in Japan has intrigued you the most so far. Then try zooming into their roles after 1993 and ask specific questions. For example,

- 1) What is the relationship between the Nippon Keidanren and the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) today? Do they still maintain a close relationship?
- 2) The Japanese Ministry of Finance never let a bank fail for most of the postwar period. Is it still true? If not, why did things change?
- 3) Does the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) still play an active role in formulating Japan's industrial policy? If yes, have they been successful in choosing winners?
- 4) What happened to labor after 1993? Is there a chance for labor to gain enough political support to become a serious contender in Japanese politics?

Step Two: Establish Hypothesis & Theory

Now you have something to work with. Let's proceed with the question (1) from the list above. First, check out the Nippon Keidanren's website. Then, search for newspaper articles in *Japan Times*, *Asahi Shimbun*, *Mainichi Shimbun*, *Yomiuri Shimbun* (the latter three are in Japanese but all have an English edition as well) in the internet on the relationship between Nippon Keidanren and the LDP by going into the website of these newspapers. You can also access the search engine for some of these newspapers at library.

Step Three: Research Methods

Write down your topic and list 5-10 sources that you have found from your search.

Final Report: Research Paper

Due: January 16, 2012

Step Four: Put your research into a research paper. The outline of your paper should be annotated with some evidences and their sources. For example:

I. Introduction (1-2 pages)

Thesis: Nippon Keidanren has broken ties with the LDP

II. History of Factional Politics (2-3 pages)

(sources)

III. Evidence of the Change (10 pages)

- 1) Reduction in donation to the LDP, examples (source);
- 2) Conflicting interests b/w Nippon Keidanren and LDP, examples (source);
- 3) Establishment of ties with the DPJ; examples (sources);
- 4) Policy recommendation against the LDP party interest; examples (sources);

.....

IV. Discussion of counter-argument and how you would answer it (10-15 pages)

- 1) Counter evidence that the relationship remains the same, examples (sources);
- 2) Your Explanation

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V. Conclusion (3-4 pages)