

PSC507: Experiments in Political Science Research

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Classroom Health

As the University of Rochester returns to face-to-face course offerings in fall 2020, the campus community must recognize and address concerns about physical and emotional safety. As such, all students, faculty, and staff are required to uphold the University's values by actively engaging in behaviors that limit the spread of COVID-19. Such actions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Staying home if you are ill or if you believe you have been exposed to someone who is.** The University's guidelines detailing what to do if you have symptoms or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive can be found [here](#).
 - If this applies to you at any point throughout the semester, please notify me via email and we can set an alternate timeline for assignments and participation.
- Wearing a face mask that covers your nose and mouth throughout the class period and whenever you are indoors on campus.
- Observing social distance in the classroom. If enrollment size makes this impossible, we will find a larger classroom than the one currently assigned.
- Conducting *all* office hours and appointments via Zoom. Please use the following Zoom link in order to attend: <https://rochester.zoom.us/j/97464117394>
- Complying with directions from health care providers or public health officials to quarantine or isolate if ill or exposed to someone who is ill.

Please note that COVID-19 is a developing situation. All of these guidelines are subject to change in response to University policy and shifting levels of risk. Please check University web resources and Blackboard regularly for updates.

Course Description

Researchers in comparative politics, American politics, international relations, political methodology, and political theory increasingly rely on data collected from various types of experiments to answer important questions in their fields. This class is designed to introduce students to experimental techniques and the applications of experiments in political science. In addition to learning the techniques, we will discuss generalizability, usefulness, and ethical issues surrounding experiments. While this is primarily a seminar course, we will cover statistical material and get a hands-on introduction to programming tools for experimental research in R. This course is not specific to a particular subfield; we will cover a wide range of experimental methods (lab experiments, field experiments, surveys, etc.) used across different research areas.

Prerequisites

This is a graduate-level course. This course assumes a familiarity with probability theory, statistical and causal inference, and R. Students who take this course should have had some exposure to probability and inference linear models, and causal inference. I am happy to consider exceptions but please be aware that (1) problem sets are a part of the course and (2) I will not be reviewing the fundamentals of working with R, regression, or causal inference explicitly during class.

Class Structure

This class is designed to prioritize structured discussion over lecture. Student discussants will introduce weekly topics and guide discussion during most class sessions. I will start discussion with a brief review during some of the methods weeks and make the corresponding lecture notes available on the course website.

Discussants

Everyone in the class must sign up to serve as a discussant for at least one class meeting. The student discussant for each class session will:

1. Introduce and summarize the readings
2. Raise questions for discussion by the rest of the class
3. Initiate and guide the discussion in class

Assignments

Final grades for the course will be based on:

Class Participation (15%): In-class discussion is an important part of this course, and students are expected to contribute regularly to the conversation. Participation can take a variety of forms, including (but not limited to): serving as discussants for class sessions, asking questions of me or other students in the class, answering questions I pose in class,

answering questions posed by other students, or offering commentary on course materials. Quality is more important than quantity.

Problem Sets (15%): You will complete two problem sets over the course of the semester. These problem sets are not designed to be punishing, but they will guide you through some useful experimental design and analysis exercises and provide you with exposure to some R tools for experiments.

Final Project (70%): The purpose of this course is to get you started on your own experiments. Accordingly, the capstone project for this class will be a final paper based on an experiment that you design and implement (at minimum, in pilot form) during the semester. You may have to work in teams depending on enrollment. In order to give you a chance to get feedback in the design stage as well as the analysis stage of your final project, you will turn in your final projects in the following stages:

- **Research Design Memo and Presentation (10%):** You will submit a short (1-2 page) memo summarizing your research design and your plan for analyzing your data. Think of this as a preregistration memo. We will likely present these in class to give you workshop-style feedback on your ideas. These are due **Monday, October 14, 2020**, and they should be circulated to everyone in the class before we present designs on **October 15, 2020**.
- **Final Paper (45%):** Every student (or group) must submit a final write-up of their experiment, including: an introduction to the research question and contribution, a detailed description of the research design, a summary of the data, analysis and results, any relevant robustness checks, and a discussion of the results and their limitations. Final papers must be submitted via Blackboard no later than **Monday, December 14, 2020**.
- **Final Paper Presentation (15%):** You will present your results on the last day of class, **Tuesday, December 8, 2020**.
- **IRB: Please note that you must complete your IRB certification and have the protocol for your experiment approved by the IRB before you begin running your experiment.**

Academic Honesty

I wholeheartedly encourage collaboration. You may work together on the problem sets, but every student must submit individual solutions and code. Copying publicly available solutions wholesale violates the spirit of this course and this program.

Resources

If there are accommodations of any sort that would make the class work better for you, please come talk to me about it.

If you think you may need to seek accommodations due to a disability, the Office of Disability Resources (<http://www.rochester.edu/college/disability/index.html>) can help you figure out your options. Speaking with faculty about disability-related accommodations is strictly confidential; I encourage you to come see me with concerns or requests.

Other resources that may prove helpful during your time at the University of Rochester:

- CARE (<https://www.rochester.edu/care/about.html>).
- The Writing & Speaking Center (<http://writing.rochester.edu/index.html>)
- Tutoring (<http://www.rochester.edu/college/cefl/undergraduate/tutoring.html>)
- University Counseling Center (<http://www.rochester.edu/uhs/ucc/>)
- David T. Kearns Center (<https://www.rochester.edu/college/kearnscenter/>)
- Office of Minority Student Affairs (<http://www.rochester.edu/College/OMSA/>)

Required Readings

Most readings for this course will be made available in electronic form on the course website. We will be reading excerpts from the following books in class; these can be purchased online via Amazon.com and other online retailers. They should also be on reserve at the Rush Rhees Library.

Books

1. *Cambridge Handbook of Experimental Political Science* (CHEPS). Druckman, James N., Donald P. Green, James H. Kuklinski, and Arthur Lupia (editors). Cambridge University Press. New York. 2011.
2. *Experimental Political Science and the Study of Causality: From Nature to the Lab* (EPS). Morton, Rebecca B. and Kenneth C. Williams. Cambridge University Press. New York. 2010.
3. *Field Experiments: Design, Analysis, and Interpretation* (FEDAI). Gerber, Alan S. and Donald P. Green. W.W. Norton & Company. New York. 2012.

Schedule

This schedule is tentative. Please come to class each Tuesday or Thursday prepared to discuss the readings listed for that date. All readings marked with an * are recommended, but not required.

Part I: Introduction to Experiments and Experimental Inference

Thursday, 08/27 Experiments in the Discipline

- EPS. Chapter 2: 33-58 (skip 2.4.3)
- Druckman, James N., Donald P. Green, James H. Kuklinski, and Arthur Lupia. "The Growth and Development of Experimental Research in Political Science." *American Political Science Review*. 2006. 100 (4): 627-635
- Gelman, Andrew. "Experimental Reasoning in Social Science." *Field Experiments and Their Critics*. Teele, Dawn (editor). Yale University Press. New Haven. 2014.
- Discussant sign up
- Complete CITI training and certification ([Access it Here](#))

Tuesday, 09/01 Validity

- EPS Chapter 7: 253-276
- CHEPS Chapter 3: 27-40
- Gerber, Alan S., Donald P. Green and Edward H. Kaplan. "The Illusion of Learning from Observational Research." *Problems and Methods in the Study of Politics*. Shapiro, Ian, Rogers Smith, and Tarek Massoud (editors). Cambridge University Press. New York. 2004.
- *Chilton, Adam S. and Dustin Tingley. "Why the Study of International Law Needs Experiments." *Columbia Journal of Transnational Law*. 2013. 52 (1): 173-238

Part II: Design and Analysis

Thursday, 09/03 Power

- FEDAI Appendix 3.1: 93
- Bansak, Kirk. "A Generalized Approach to Power Analysis for Local Average Treatment Effects." *Statistical Science*. 2020. 335(2): 254-271.
- Gelman, Andrew and John Carlin. "Beyond Power Calculations: Assessing Type S (Sign) and Type M (Magnitude) Errors." *Perspectives on Psychological Science*. 2014. 9 (6): 641-651
- Andrew Gelman's Blog Post on Power: <https://statmodeling.stat.columbia.edu/2018/03/15/need-16-times-sample-size-estimate-interaction-estimate-main-effect/>

Tuesday, 09/08 Estimating Treatment Effects

- FEDAI. Chapters 2-3: 21-92
- Bowers, Jake and Costas Panogopolous. "Fisher's Randomization Mode of Statistical Inference, Then and Now." *Working Paper*. <http://www.jakebowers.org/PAPERS/BowPan-Fisher.pdf>
- Ho, Daniel E. and Kosuke Imai. "Randomization Inference with Natural Experiments: An Analysis of Ballot Effects in the 2003 California Recall Election." *Journal of the American Statistical Association*. 2006. 101 (475): 888-900
- *Gerber, Alan S., Donald P. Green, Edward Kaplan, and Holger Kern. "Baseline, Placebo, and Treatment: Efficient Estimation for Three-Group Experiments." *Political Analysis*. 2010. 18(3): 297-315
- *Green, Donald P. and Lynn Vavreck. "Analysis of Cluster-Randomized Experiments: A Comparison of Alternative Estimation Approaches." *Political Analysis*. 2008. 16(2): 138-152

Thursday, 09/10 Covariates in the Design Phase

- FEDAI. Chapter 4: 95-130
- Hansen, Ben B. and Jake Bowers. "Covariate Balance in Simple, Stratified and Clustered Comparative Studies." *Statistical Science*. 2008. 23 (2): 219-236
- Imai, Kosuke, Gary King, and Clayton Nall. "The Essential Role of Pair Matching in Cluster-Randomized Experiments, with Application to the Mexican Universal Health Insurance Evaluation." *Statistical Science*. 2009. 24(1): 29-53.
- Donner, Allan, Monica Taljaard and Neil Klar. "The Merits of Breaking the Matches: A Cautionary Tale." *Statistics in Medicine*. 2007. 26: 2036-2051
- *Klar, Neil and Allan Donner. "The Merits of Matching in Community Intervention Trials: A Cautionary Tale." *Statistics in Medicine*. 1997. 16: 1753-1764

Tuesday, 09/15 Covariates in the Analysis Phase

- Freedman, David A. "On Regression Adjustments to Experimental Data." *Advances in Applied Mathematics*. 2008. 40: 180-193.
- Lin, Winston. "Agnostic Notes on Regression Adjustments to Experimental Data: Reexamining Freedman's Critique." *The Annals of Applied Statistics*. 2013. 7 (1): 295-318
- Montgomery, Jacob, Brendan Nyhan and Michelle Torres. "How Conditioning on Posttreatment Variables Can Ruin Your Experiment and What to Do About It." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2018. 76(3): 760-775

Thursday, 09/17 Noncompliance

- FEDAI Chapters 5-6: 131-209
- Angrist, Joshua D., Guido W. Imbens, and Donald B. Rubin. "Identification of Causal Effects Using Instrumental Variables." *Journal of the American Statistical Association*. 1996. 91(434): 444-455
- Angrist, Joshua D. "Instrumental Variables Methods in Experimental Criminological Research: What, Why and How." *Journal of Experimental Criminology*. 2006. 2: 23-44
- Barnard, John, Constantine E. Frangakis, Jennifer L. Hill and Donald Rubin. "Principal Stratification Approach to Broken Randomized Experiments: A Case Study of School Choice Vouchers in New York City." *Journal of the American Statistical Association*. 2003. 98 (462): 299 - 323.
- Feller, Avi, Fabrizia Mealli, and Luke Miratrix. "Principal Score Methods: Assumptions, Extensions, and Practical Considerations." *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*. 2017. 42(6): 726-758

Tuesday, 09/22 Mechanisms

- FEDAI Chapter 10: 319-346
- Bullock, John G., Donald P. Green, and Shang E. Ha. "Yes, But What's the Mechanism? (Don't Expect an Answer)." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. 2010. April: 550-58
- Imai, Kosuke, Dustin Tingley, and Teppei Yamamoto. "Experimental Designs for Identifying Causal Mechanisms." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A (Statistics in Society)*. 2013. 176.1: 5-51.
- Kosuke Imai, Luke Keele, Dustin Tingley, and Teppei Yamamoto. "Unpacking the Black Box of Causality: Learning about Causal Mechanisms from Experimental and Observational Data." 2011. *American Political Science Review*. 105(4): 765-789

Part III: Types of Experiments**Thursday, 09/24 Lab Experiments I**

- CHEPS Chapter 6-7: 73-101
- Falk, Armin and James J. Heckman. "Lab Experiments Are a Major Source of Knowledge in the Social Sciences." *Science*. 2009. 326(5952): 535-538.
- Levitt, Steven D., and John A. List. "What Do Laboratory Experiments Measuring Social Preferences Reveal About the Real World?" 2007. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 21(2): 153-174.
- Roth, Alvin. "Laboratory Experimentation in Economics: A Methodological Overview." *The Economic Journal*. 1988. 974-1031.

- Horton John J., Rand, David G., Zeckhauser Richard J. "The Online Laboratory: Conducting Experiments in a Real Labor Market". 2011. *Experimental Economics*. 14: 399-425.
- *Sears, David O. "College Sophomores in the Laboratory: Influences of a Narrow Data Base on Social Psychology's View of Human Nature." 1986. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. 51(3): 515-530
- *Rosnow, Ralph L. and Robert Rosenthal. *People Studying People: Artifacts and Ethics in Behavioral Research*. 1997. New York: Freeman and Company. Chapters 1-4
- *CHEPS Chapter 4: 73-101

Tuesday, 09/29 Lab Experiments II

- Tversky, Amos and Daniel Kahneman. "The Framing of Decisions and the Psychology of Choice." *Science*. 1981. 211: 453-458
- Frechette, Guillaume, John H. Kagel, Massimo Morelli. "Behavioral Identification in Coalition Bargaining: An Experimental Analysis of Demand Bargaining and Alternating Offers." 2005. *Econometrica*. 73(6): 1893-1937
- Huber, Gregory A. and Kyle Peyton. "Do Survey Measures of Racial Prejudice Predict Racial Discrimination? Experimental Evidence on Anti-Black Discrimination." 2018. Working Paper.

Thursday, 10/01 Lab Experiments III [Problem Set 1 Due](#)

- Carlson, Taylor. "Through the Grapevine: Informational Consequences of Interpersonal Political Communication." *American Political Science Review*. 2019. 113(2): 325-339
- Herrera, Helios, Aniol Llorente-Saguer, and Joseph C. McMurray. "Information Aggregation and Turnout in Proportional Representation: A Laboratory Experiment." *Journal of Public Economics*. 2019. 179:
- McDermott, Rose, Dustin Tingley, and Peter K. Hatemi. "Assortative Mating on Ideology Could Operate Through Olfactory Cues." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2014. 58(4): 997-1005
- *Aaroe, Lene, and Michael Bang Petersen. "Hunger Games: Fluctuations in Blood Glucose Levels Influence Support for Social Welfare." *Psychological Science*. 2013. 24(12): 2550-2556.
- *Oxley, Douglas R., Kevin B. Smith, John R. Alford, Matthew V. Hibbing, Jennifer L. Miller, Mario Scalora, Peter K. Hatemi, and John R. Hibbing. 2008. "Political Attitudes Vary with Physiological Traits." *Science*. 321(5896): 1667-1670.
- *McDermott, Rose, Dustin Tingley, Jonathan Cowden, Giovanni Frazzetto, and Dominic D. P. Johnson. "Monoamine Oxidase A Gene (MAOA) Predicts Behavioral Aggression Following Provocation." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 2009. 106(7): 2118-2123

Tuesday, 10/06 Survey Experiments I

- EPS 8.2.1-8.2.2: 278-295
- CHEPS Chapter 8: 102-114
- Barabas, Jason, and Jennifer Jerit. "Are Survey Experiments Externally Valid?" *American Political Science Review*. 2010. 104(2): 226-242
- Mullinix, Kevin J. , Thomas J. Leeper, James N. Druckman, and Jeremy Freese. "The Generalizability of Survey Experiments." *Journal of Experimental Political Science*. 2015. 2: 109-138
- Berinsky, Adam J., Gregory A. Huber, and Gabriel S. Lenz. "Evaluating Online Labor Markets for Experimental Research: Amazon.com's Mechanical Turk." *Political Analysis*. 2012. 20(3): 351-368
- Huff, Connor and Dustin Tingley. "Who Are These People? Evaluating the Demographic Characteristics and Political Preferences of MTurk Survey Respondents." *Research and Politics*. 2015. July-September Issue: 1-12

Thursday, 10/08 Survey Experiments II

- Chong, Dennis and Jamie Druckman. "Framing Theory." *Annual Review of Political Science*. 2007 10: 103-126
- Hopkins, Daniel and Jonathan Mummolo. "Assessing the Breadth of Framing Effects." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*. 2017. 37-57.
- Mummolo, Jonathan and Erik Peterson. "Demand Effects in Survey Experiments: An Empirical Assessment." *American Political Science Review*. 2018. 1-13.
- Blair, Graeme and Kosuke Imai. "Statistical Analysis of List Experiments." *Political Analysis*. 2012. 20(1): 47-77
- Prior, Markus. "Improving Media Effects Research through Better Measurement of News Exposure." *Journal of Politics*. 2009. 71(3): 893-908.

Tuesday, 10/13 Survey Experiments III

- Tomz, Mike. "Domestic Audience Costs in International Relations: An Experimental Approach." *International Organization*. 2007. 61(4): 821-840.
- Prior, Markus and Arthur Lupia. "Money, Time, and Political Knowledge: Distinguishing Quick Recall and Political Learning Skills." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2008. 52(1): 168-182.
- Coppock, Alexander. "Did Shy Trump Supporters Bias the 2016 Polls? Evidence from a Nationally-representative List Experiment." *Statistics, Politics and Policy*. 2017. 8(1): 29-40.
- Martin, Lucy and Pia Raffler. "Fault Lines: The Effects of Bureaucratic Power on Electoral Accountability." *American Journal of Political Science*. Forthcoming. [Access it here](#).

- * Tomz, Mike, and van Houweling, Robert. "The Electoral Implications of Candidate Ambiguity." *American Political Science Review*. 2009. 103(1): 83-98.
- * Bullock, John G. "Elite Influence on Public Opinion in an Informed Electorate." *American Political Science Review*. 2011. 105(3): 496-515.

Thursday, 10/15 In Class Research Design Workshop

- Present your research design ideas in class and we will workshop them!

Tuesday, 10/20 Conjoint Experiments I

- Hainmueller, Jens, Daniel J. Hopkins and Teppei Yamamoto. "Causal Inference in Conjoint Analysis: Understanding Multidimensional Choices via Stated Preference Experiments." *Political Analysis*. 2013. (22)1: 1-30
- Bansak, Kirk, Jens Hainmueller, Daniel J. Hopkins, and Teppei Yamamoto. "The Number of Choice Tasks and Survey Satisficing in Conjoint Experiments." *Political Analysis*. 2018. 26: 112-119
- Koçak, Korhan, Scott Abramson, and Asya Magazinnik. "What Do We Learn about Preferences from Conjoint Experiments?" Working Paper. [Access it here](#).
- Abramson, Scott F., Korhan Koçak, Asya Magazinnik, and Anton Strezhnev. "Improving Preference Elicitation in Conjoint Designs using Machine Learning for Heterogeneous Effects." Working Paper. [Access it here](#).
- Clayton, Katherine, Yusaku Horiuchi, Aaron Kaufman, Gary King, and Mayya Komisarichik. "Avoiding Measurement Error Bias in Conjoint Analysis." Working Paper.
- *Louviere, Jordan J. "Conjoint Analysis Modeling of Stated Preferences: A Review of Theory, Methods, Recent Developments and External Validity." *Journal of Transport Economics and Policy*. 1988. 22(1): 93-119
- *Madansky, Albert. "On Conjoint Analysis and Quantal Choice Models." *The Journal of Business*. 1980. 53(3): S37-S44
- *Louviere, Jordan J. and George Woodworth. "Design and Analysis of Simulated Consumer Choice or Allocation Experiments: An Approach Based on Aggregate Data." *Journal of Marketing Research*. 1983. 20(4): 350-367

Thursday, 10/22 Conjoint Experiments II

- Auerbach, Adam Michael and Tariq Thachil. "How Clients Select Brokers: Competition and Choice in India's Slums." *American Political Science Review*. 2018. 112(4): 775-791
- Hainmueller, Jens and Daniel J. Hopkins. "The Hidden American Immigration Consensus: A Conjoint Analysis of Attitudes toward Immigrants." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2015. 59(3): 529-548

- Atkeson, Lonna Rae and Brian T. Hamel. "Fit for the Job: Candidate Qualifications and Vote Choice in Low Information Elections." *Political Behavior*. 2018. 1-24.
- Carnes, Nicholas and Noam Lupu. "Do Voters Dislike Working-Class Candidates? Voter Biases and the Descriptive Underrepresentation of the Working Class." *American Political Science Review*. 2016. 110(4): 832-844
- *Hankinson, Michael. "When Do Renters Behave Like Homeowners? High Rent, Price Anxiety, and NIMBYism." *American Political Science Review*. 2018. 112(3): 473-493
- *Wiswall, Matthew and Basit Zafar. "Preference for the Workplace, Investment in Human Capital, and Gender." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 2018. 133(1): 457-507.

Tuesday, 10/27 Field Experiments I

- CHEPS Chapter 9: 115-138
- Grose, Christian R. "Field Experimental Work on Political Institutions." *Annual Review of Political Science*. 2014. 17: 355-370
- White, Ariel R., Noah L. Nathan, and Julie K. Faller. "What Do I Need to Vote? Bureaucratic Discretion and Discrimination by Local Election Officials." *American Political Science Review*. 2015. 109(1): 129-142.
- Kendall, Chad, Tommaso Nannicini, and Francesco Trebbi. "How do Voters Respond to Information? Evidence from a Randomized Campaign." *American Economic Review*. 2015. 105(1): 322-353
- Yokum, David, Anita Ravishankar, and Alexander Coppock. "A Randomized Control Trial Evaluating the Effects of Police Body-Worn Cameras." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 2019. 116(21): 10329-10332
- *Broockman, David, Joshua Kalla, and Jasjeet Sekhon. "The Design of Field Experiments With Survey Outcomes: A Framework for Selecting More Efficient, Robust, and Ethical Designs." *Political Analysis*. 2017. 25(4): 435-464

Thursday, 10/29 Field Experiments II

- Paluck, Elizabeth Levy. "Reducing Intergroup Prejudice and Conflict Using the Media: A Field Experiment in Rwanda." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. 2009. 96: 574-587
- Nyhan, Brendan and Jason Reifler. "The Effect of Fact-Checking on Elites: A Field Experiment on U.S. State Legislators." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2015. 59(3): 628-640
- Gerber, Alan, Greg Huber, and Ebonya Washington. "Party Affiliation, Partisanship, and Political Beliefs: A Field Experiment." *American Political Science Review*. 2010. 104(4): 720-744
- Wanchekon, Leonard. "Clientelism and Voting Behavior: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Benin." *World Politics*. 2003. 55: 399-422.

- *Gerber, Alan, Dean Karlan and Daniel Bergan. “Does the Media Matter? A Field Experiment Measuring the Effect of Newspapers on Voting Behavior and Political Opinions.” 2009. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 1(2): 35-52
- * Moehler, Devra C., and Jeffrey Conroy-Krutz. “Partisan Media and Engagement: A Field Experiment in a Newly Liberalized System.” *Political Communication*. 2015. 00: 1-19.
- *Alvarez, R. Michael, Asa Hopkins, and Betsy Sinclair. “Mobilizing Pasadena Democrats: Measuring The Effects of Partisan Campaign Contacts.” *Journal of Politics*. 2010. 72(1): 31-44
- *Gay, Claudine. “Moving to Opportunity: The Political Effects of a Housing Mobility Experiment.” *Urban Affairs Review*. 2012. 48(2): 147-179
- *Addonizio, Elizabeth M., Donald P. Green and James M. Glaser. “Putting the Party Back into Politics: An Experiment Testing Whether Election Day Festivals Increase Voter Turnout.” *PS: Political Science & Politics*. 2007. 40: 721-727

Tuesday, 11/03 Natural Experiments I

- FEDAI 1.6: 15-17
- Sekhon, Jasjeet S., and Rocio Titiunik. “When natural experiments are neither natural nor experiments.” *American Political Science Review*. 2012. 106(1): 35-57
- Robinson, Gregory, John E. McNutty, and Jonathan S. Krasno. “Observing the Counterfactual? The Search for Political Experiments in Nature.” *Political Analysis*. 2009. 17(4): 358-376
- Deaton, Angus. “Instruments, Randomization, and Learning about Development.” *Journal of Economic Literature*. 2010. 48(2): 424-455
- Elis, Roy, Neil Malhotra, and March Meredith. “Apportionment Cycles as Natural Experiments.” *Political Analysis*. 2009. 17(4): 341-357
- *Healy, Andrew J., Neil Malhotra, and Cecilia Hyunjung Mo. “Irrelevant Events Affect Voters’ Evaluations of Government Performance.” *PNAS*. 2010. 107(29): 12804-12809
- *Fowler, Anthony and B. Pablo Montagnes. “College Football, Elections, and False-Positive Results in Observational Research.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 2015. 112(45): 13800-13804
- *Berinsky, Adam J. and Sara Chatfield. “An Empirical Justification for the Use of Draft Lottery Numbers as a Random Treatment in Political Science Research.” *Political Analysis*. 2015. 449-454.

Thursday, 11/05 Natural Experiments II [Problem Set 2 Due](#)

- Enos, Ryan D. “What the Demolition of Public Housing Teaches Us About the Impact of Racial Threat on Political Behavior.” *American Journal of Political Science*. 2016. 60(1): 123-142

- Atkinson, Matthew D. and Anthony Fowler. "Social Capital and Voter Turnout: Evidence from Saint's Day Fiestas in Mexico." *British Journal of Political Science*. 2014. 44(1): 41-59
- Becker, Sascha O., Lukas Mergele, Ludger Woessmann. "The Separation and Reunification of Germany: Rethinking a Natural Experiment Interpretation of the Enduring Effects of Communism." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 2020. 34(2): 143-171.
- Hall, Andrew B. "What Happens When Extremists Win Primaries?" *American Political Science Review*. 2015. 109(1): 18-42
- *Washington, Ebonya. "Female Socialization: How Daughters Affect Their Legislator Fathers? Voting on Women's Issues." *American Economic Review*. 2008. 98(1): 311-332.
- *Dowling, Conor M., Ryan D. Enos, Anthony Fowler, and Costas Panagopoulos. "Does Public Financing Chill Political Speech? Exploiting a Court Injunction as a Natural Experiment." *Election Law Journal*. 2012. 11(3):302-315
- *Grossman, Guy, Devorah Manekin and Dan Miodownik. "The Political Legacies of Combat: Attitudes Toward War and Peace Among Israeli Ex-Combatants." *International Organization*. 2015. 69: 981-1009
- *Posner, Daniel N. "The Political Salience of Cultural Difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas Are Allies in Zambia and Adversaries in Malawi." *American Political Science Review*. 2004. 98(4): 529-545
- *Fraga, Bernard and Eitan Hersh. "Voting Costs and Voter Turnout in Competitive Elections." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*. 2011. 5(4): 339-356.
- *Bhavani, Rikhil. "Do Electoral Quotas Work after They Are Withdrawn? Evidence from a Natural Experiment in India." *The American Political Science Review*. 2009. 23-35.

Part IV: Ethics and Transparency

Tuesday, 11/10 Ethics I

- EPS Chapters 12-13: 455-521
- CHEPS Chapter 5: 58-69
- Humphreys, Macartan. "Ethical Challenges of Embedded Experimentation." [Access it here](#).
- Hertwig, Ralph, and Andreas Ortmann. "Deception in Experiments: Revisiting the Arguments in its Defense." *Ethics & Behavior*. 2008. 18(1): 59-92
- Humphreys, Macartan, Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, and Peter van der Winds. "Fishing, Commitment, and Communication: A Proposal for Comprehensive Nonbinding Research Registration." *Political Analysis*. 2013. 21: 1-20
- *Nickerson, David. "When the Client Owns the Data." *The Experimental Political Scientist*. 2011. 2(2): 5-6

Thursday, 11/12 Ethics II**Affecting the Outcomes of Elections**

- Enos, Ryan D., Anthony Fowler, and Lynn Vavreck. "Increasing Inequality: The Effect of GOTV Mobilization on the Composition of the Electorate." *Journal of Politics*. 2014. 76(1): 273-288
- Willis, Derek. "Professors' Research Project Stirs Political Outrage in Montana." *The New York Times*. October 29, 2014. [Access it here](#).
 - You might be interested in Chris Blattman's response entitled "Is It OK for Researchers to Mess with Elections?" [Access it here](#).
 - or Thomas Leeper's response "In Defense of the Montana Experiment" [Access it here](#).

Causing Harm

- Cantoni, Davide, David Y. Yang, Noam Yuchtman, and Y. Jane Zhang. "Protests as Strategic Games: Experimental Evidence from Hong Kong's Antiauthoritarian Movement." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 2019. 134(2): 1021-1077
- Coville, Aidan, Sebastian Galiani, Paul Gertler, and Susumu Yoshida. "Enforcing Payment for Water and Sanitation Services in Nairobi's Slums." Working Paper. [Access it here](#).
- *Haney, Craig, Curtis Banks and Philip Zimbardo. "Interpersonal Dynamics in a Simulated Prison." *International Journal of Criminology and Penology*. 1973. 1: 69-97
 - *Resnick, Brian. "The Stanford Prison Experiment was Massively Influential. We Just Learned It Was A Fraud." *Vox*. June 13, 2018. [Access it here](#).

Uses of Public Time

- Butler, Daniel M., and David E. Broockman. "Do Politicians Racially Discriminate against Constituents? A Field Experiment on State Legislators." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2011. 55(3): 463-477

Part V: Applications**Tuesday, 11/17 Voting**

- Gerber, Alan S., Donald P. Green, and Christopher W. Larimer. "Social Pressure and Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment." *American Political Science Review*. 2008. 102(1): 33-48.
- Gailmard, Sean, Tim Feddersen and Alvaro Sandroni. "Moral Bias in Large Elections: Theory and Experimental Evidence." *American Political Science Review*. 2009. 103(2): 175-192
- Marco Battaglini, Rebecca Morton, and Thomas Palfrey. "The Swing Voter's Curse in the Laboratory." *Review of Economic Studies*. 2010. 1: 61-89

- Enos, Ryan D., and Anthony Fowler. "Pivotality and Turnout: Evidence from a Field Experiment in the Aftermath of a Tied Election." *Political Science Research and Methods*. 2014. 2(2): 309-319.
- *Nickerson, David. "Is Voting Contagious? Evidence from Two Field Experiments." *American Political Science Review*. 2010. 102(1): 49-57
- *Krasno, Jonathan S. and Donald P. Green. "Do Televised Presidential Ads Increase Voter Turnout? Evidence from a Natural Experiment." *Journal of Politics*. 2008. 70: 245-261.
- *Huber, Gregory A., Hill, Seth J. and Lenz, Gabriel S. "Sources of Bias in Retrospective Decision Making: Experimental Evidence on Voters' Limitations in Controlling Incumbents." *American Political Science Review*. , 2012. 106(4): 720-741
- *Sondheimer, Rachel Milstein, and Donald P. Green. "Using Experiments to Estimate the Effects of Education on Voter Turnout." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2010. 54(1): 174-189

Thursday, 11/19 Development

- Chattopadhyay, Raghavendra, and Esther Duflo. "Women as Policy Makers: Evidence from a Randomized Policy Experiment in India." *Econometrica*. 2004. 72(5): 1409-1443.
- Habyarimana, James, Macartan Humphreys, Dan Posner, and Jeremy Weinstein. "Why Does Ethnic Diversity Undermine Public Goods Provision? An Experimental Approach." *American Political Science Review*. 2007. 101(4): 709-725.
- Olken, Benjamin A. "Direct Democracy and Local Public Goods: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *American Political Science Review*. 2010. 104(2): 243-267
- Fearon James D., Macartan Humphreys, and Jeremy M. Weinstein. "Can Development Aid Contribute to Social Cohesion after Civil War? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Post-Conflict Liberia." *American Economic Review*. 2009. 99(2): 287-291
- Slough, Tara. "Bureaucrats Driving Inequality in Access: Experimental Evidence from Colombia." Working Paper. [Access it here](#).
- *Olken, Benjamin A. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy*. 2007. 115(2): 200-249
- *Humphreys, Macartan and Jeremy M. Weinstein. "Field Experiments and the Political Economy of Development." *Annual Review of Political Science*. 2009. 12: 367-378

Tuesday, 11/24 Intergroup Conflict

- Enos, Ryan D. and Noam Gidron. "Intergroup Behavioral Strategies as Contextually Determined: Experimental Evidence from Israel." *Journal of Politics*. 2016. 78(3): 851-867
- Iyengar, Shanto, and Sean J. Westwood. "Fear and Loathing Across Party Lines: New Evidence on Group Polarization." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2015. 59(3): 690-707

- Hainmueller, Jens, and Dominik Hangartner. "Who gets a Swiss Passport? A Natural Experiment in Immigrant Discrimination." *American Political Science Review* 2013. 107(1): 159-187.
- Alexander, Marcus and Fotini Christia. "Context Modularity of Human Altruism." *Science*. 2011. 334(6061): 1392-1394.
- Enos, Ryan D. "Causal Effect of Intergroup Contact on Exclusionary Attitudes." *PNAS*. 2014. 111(10): 3699-3704.

Thursday, 11/26 No Class. Thanksgiving Break. All classes go online after 11/25.

Tuesday, 12/01 Race

- Bertrand, Marianne and Sendhil Mullainathan. "Are Emily and Greg More Employable Than Lakisha and Jamal? A Field Experiment on Labor Market Discrimination." *American Economic Review*. 2004. 94(4): 991-1013.
- Broockman, David E. "Black Politicians Are More Intrinsically Motivated to Advance Blacks' Interests: A Field Experiment Manipulating Political Incentives." *American Journal of Political Science*. 2013. 57(3): 521-536.
- Fang, Albert H., Andrew M. Guess, and Macartan Humphreys. "Can the Government Deter Discrimination? Evidence from a Randomized Intervention in New York City." *Journal of Politics*. 2019. 81(1): 127-141.
- White, Ismail K., Chryl N. Laird, and Troy D. Allen. "Selling Out?: The Politics of Navigating Conflicts between Racial Group Interest and Self-interest." *American Political Science Review*. 2014. 783-800.
- *Broockman, David E. and Evan J. Soltas. "A Natural Experiment on Discrimination in Elections." *Journal of Public Economics*. Forthcoming.
- *Chudy, Jennifer, Spencer Piston, and Joshua Shipper. "Guilt by Association: White Collective Guilt in American Politics." *Journal of Politics*. 2019. 81(3): 968-981.
- *Crowder-Meyer, Melody, Shana Kushner Gadarian, and Jessica Trounstine. "Voting Can Be Hard, Information Helps." *Urban Affairs Review*. 2019. 56(1): 124-153.

Thursday, 12/03 Social Media

- Munger, Kevin. "Tweetment Effects on the Tweeted: Experimentally Reducing Racist Harassment." *Political Behavior*. 2016. 39:629-649.
- Coppock, Alexander, Andrew Guess, and John Ternovski. "When Treatments are Tweets: A Network Mobilization Experiment over Twitter." *Political Behavior*. 2016. 38(1): 105-128.
- Anspach, Nicholas M. and Taylor Carlson. "What to Believe? Social Media Commentary and Belief in Misinformation." *Political Behavior*. 2020. 42: 697-718

- Gallego, Jorge, Juan D. Martinez, Kevin Munger, and Mateo Vásquez-Cortés. "Tweeting for Peace: Experimental Evidence from the 2016 Colombian Plebiscite." *Electoral Studies*. 2019. 62:

Tuesday, 12/08 Final Presentations

- Present your final projects in class!