uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Research techniques in Political Science

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 21-04-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: VALL PRAT, PAU Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 2 Semester: 2

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Basic knowledge of statistics

OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, students must be proficient in the following tasks:

- 1) operationalization of research hypotheses
- 2) handling and preparation of data
- 3) use of the main quantitative techniques in social research:
- a. Selecting the most appropriate technique for each type of research question and data
- b. Data Analysis
- c. Interpretation of the analyses
- 4) a working knowledge of Stata/R/SPSS and basic programming skills

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

Quantitative research techniques are a key element in the training of future professionals. This course delves into the learning of quantitative social research techniques from an applied perspective. All topics will be approached in a theoretical/practical way, using the statistical package Stata

The course is structured as follows:

- 1. Introduction to quantitative social research
- 2. Descriptive Analysis
- 3. Bivariate analysis
- 4. Multivariate Analysis:
- 4.1. Linear Regression
- 4.2. Logistic Regression
- Visualización and reporting

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Master Classes (3 ECTS credits):

Lecture on the theoretical content of the subject.

Reduce Classes (3 ECTS credits):

Practical classes in the computer room using Stata/R/SPSS

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Theory and practical exercises, and other activities conducted in the classroom Percent of continuous assessment (assignments, labs, etc.): 40%.

Final exam: includes both theory and practice content

Percent of end-of-term examination: 60%.

In the extraordinary call, the evaluation system will be as follows:

1) Exam: 100%.

% end-of-term-examination: 60

% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals...): 40

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Cameron, Colin A. & Pravin K. Trivedi Microeconometrics using Stata, Stata Press, 2010
- Ethan Bueno de Mesquita & Anthony Fowler Thinking Clearly with Data: A Guide to Quantitative Reasoning and Analysis, Princeton University Press, 2021
- Kosuke Imai & Lori D. Bougher Quantitative Social Science: An Introduction in Stata, Princeton University Press,
- Long, Scott J. & Jeremy Freese Regression Models for Categorical Dependent Variables Using Stata, Stata Press, 2014

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- James, Gareth, Daniel Witten, Trevor Hastie, & Robert Tibshirani An introduction to Statistical Learning with applications in R, Spinger, 2013