定量研究方法 II: 因果推断 POL8013 2024 年春

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答疑时间:周五 15:00~17:00 或 邮件预约

课程性质:专业前沿课 学时学分:2学分共16周

开课时间:周五3-4节(10:00-11:40)

开课地点: 徐汇 工程馆 211

课程简介

本课程是国际与公共事务学院政治学专业博士研究生的第二门定量方法前沿课。承接《定量研究方法 I: 回归分析》,本门课程深入讲解政治学领域广泛应用的高阶量化方法,其核心主题是因果推断。这些方法包括实验、基于观测的选择以及多种因果识别策略,如双重差分、断点回归和工具变量等。我们将通过政治学、经济学、公共政策和社会学领域的经典研究来展示这些因果推断方法的应用。

课程的目标是帮助博士研究生掌握可应用于自己研究领域的前沿量化方法。 授课教师将采取"手把手"和"做中学"的教学方式,通过知识点讲授、课堂实践和 课后作业,加深学生对因果推断方法的理解并达到应用程度。课程的高阶目标是 让学生掌握因果推断的统计表达,明晰什么是因果效应,理解各因果识别策略的 假定,并帮助学生更好地评估研究设计和量化方法。

因果推断并不神秘。本课程旨在帮助学生"祛魅",消除对量化方法的复杂迷思。课程鼓励学生用科学和理性的分析视角关注现实问题,培养学生经世济民的专业素养。

Course Description

This course is part of the graduate quantitative method sequence offered for graduate students of political science in the School of International and Public Affairs. Building on the first course, *Quantitative Methods I: Regression Analysis*, this second course provides a survey of more advanced empirical tools for causal inference in political science research. These methods include experiments, selection on observables, and identification strategies, i.e., difference-in-differences, regression discontinuity designs, and instrumental variable estimation, etc. We will illustrate the methods with the canonical applications drawn from various fields, including political science, economics, public policy, and sociology.

The goal of this course is to provide students with adequate methodological skills for

conducting cutting-edge empirical research in their own fields of substantive interest. The course will proceed in a hands-on manner, involving a combination of lecture, lab sessions, and problem sets, so students will hone in their quantitative toolkits by practicing the methods in real data. The more proximate goals will teach students about potential outcomes notation, offer clarity on what is (and is not) a causal effect, comprehend the assumptions of each identification strategy, and provide guidance about how to evaluate research designs and assess threats to validity.

Causal inference is no mystery at all. This course is to help students *disenchant* the methodological complexity. It further encourages students to solve real-life problems with a scientific and analytical mind.

课程结构

课程分 16 周进行,每周 2 个课时(1 小时 40 分钟)。课程一共包括三个部分: 实验、基于观测的选择和因果识别策略。每个部分由讲座(讲授统计知识和方法 概念)和课堂实践(讨论方法的应用,并在电脑上进行实际操作)组成,并以大 作业形式加深学生对方法的理解与应用熟练程度。

课程软件

课程将使用 Stata 作为课程统计软件。

考核方式

课程评价包括出勤、讨论和大作业,其中大作业占比较高。

- (1) 出勤(10%)
- (2) 讨论(15%)
- (3) 大作业(75%)

阅读资料

- Angrist and Pischke 2009. Mostly Harmless Econometrics: Am Empiricist's Companion, Princeton University Press.
- 陈强,《计量经济学及 Stata 应用》,第二版,高等教育出版社,2023 年 12 月。

(所有阅读资料均可在 Canvas 中获取)

教学内容进度安排

第1周(2.23): 课程导论 Course Introduction

第一部分: 实验 The Experimental Ideal

第 2 周 (3.1): 潜在结果框架 Potential Outcome Framework

第 3 周 (3.8): 随机实验 Randomized Experiments

第 4 周 (3.15): 课堂实践 Lab Session

参考阅读(方法)

• Angrist and Pischke, Chapter 2.

参考阅读(应用)

- Gerber, Alan S., Donald P. Green and Christopher W. Larimer. 2008. "Social Pressure and Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Large-scale Field Experiment." American Political Science Review 102 (1): 1-48.
- Olken, Benjamin A. 2007. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy* 115: 300-249.

✓ 作业 1 (3 月 8 日下发, 3 月 17 日 23:59 前提交)

第二部分: 基于观测的选择 Selection on Observables

第 5 周 (3.22): 匹配方法 Matching

第6周 (3.29): 基于回归的因果推断 Regression-based Causal Inference

第 7 周 (4.5): 课堂实践 Lab Session

参考阅读(方法)

- Imbens, Guido. 2014. "Matching Methods in Practice: Three Examples." *NBER Working Paper 19959*.
- Angrist and Pischke, Chapter 3.

参考阅读(应用)

- Gordon, Sanford and Gregory Huber. "The Effect of Electoral Competitiveness on Incumbent Behavior." Quarterly Journal of Political Science 2(2): 107-138.
- Blattman, Christopher. 2009. "From Violence to Voting: War and Political

作业 2(3月29日下发,3月17日23:59前提交)

第三部分: 因果识别策略 Identification Strategies

第8周(4.12): 双重差分 Difference-in-Differences (DID)

第9周 (4.19): 面板数据方法 Panel-data Methods

第 10 周 (4.26): 课堂实践 Lab Session

参考阅读(方法)

• Angrist and Pischke, Chapter 5.

参考阅读(应用)

- Card, David and Alan B. Kreuger. 2004. "Minimum Wages and Employment: A
 Case Study of the Fast-Food Industry in New Jersey and Pennsylvania." American
 Economic Review 84(4): 772-93.
- Fouirnaies, Alexander and Hande Mutlu-Eren. 2015. "English Bacon: Copartisan Bias in Intergovernmental Grant Allocation in England." *Journal of Politics* 77(3): 802-817.
- Ba, Bocar, Dean Knox, Jonathan Mummolo, and Roman Rivera. 2021. "The Role
 of Officer Race and Gender in Police-Civilian Interactions in Chicago." Science
 371:696-702.

✓ 作业 3 (4月19日下发,4月28日23:59前提交)

第 11 周 (5.3): 断点回归 Regression-Discontinuity Design (RDD)

第 12 周 (5.10): 课堂实践 Lab Session

参考阅读(方法)

• Angrist and Pischke, Chapter 6.

参考阅读(应用)

- Hall, Andrew. 2015. "What Happens When Extremists Win Primaries." *American Political Science Review* 109(1): 18-42.
- ✓ 作业 4 (5.3 日下发, 5 月 12 日 23:59 前提交)

第 13 周 (5.17): 工具变量 Instrumental Variables (IV)

第 14 周 (5.24): 课堂实践 Lab Session

参考阅读(方法)

Angrist and Pischke, Chapter 4.

参考阅读 (应用)

• Shaukat, Mahvish. 2019. "Too Close to Call: Electoral Competition and Politician Behavior in India." Working Paper.

✓ 作业 5 (5.17 日下发, 5 月 26 日 23:59 前提交)

第 15 周 (5.31): 因果推断前沿研究 Cutting-Edge Topics on Causal Inference

可选主题

- 安慰剂 Placebo
- 量化文本分析中的因果推断 Causal Inference in Text-as-Data Methods

第 16 周 (6.7): 课程总结