ECPR Methods Café

◼ What's on the menu?

The Methods Café brings together a broad range of Instructors who specialise in various methods and approaches. Its informal setting – a 'café' – provides a forum for one-to-one and group discussions in a non-intimidating environment. In particular, it's a great opportunity for doctoral students and junior scholars, as well as established researchers, who might be looking for help with any aspect of their research project, from design to execution to writing.

Please attend only if you intend to participate in a discussion.

◼ How is the space set up?

Ten tables, headed up by Instructors specialising in particular methods and techniques. See the other side of this leaflet for details. Help yourself to a drink, and choose from the menu of topics to join. You can choose to spend all your time at one table, or move from place to place, as you wish.

◼ How do I find my way around the Café?

To help you navigate the space, we've posted maps around the *Aula*, listing the topic for each table, along with a poster containing descriptions of each topic, pictures and biographies of the Instructors.

A host stands at the entrance, ready to help people figure out who is sitting where, to explain the process, and to hand you a list of table topics and specialists.

◼ What kind of questions should I ask?

Absolutely any methods related questions; for example:

What is X method?

I'm in the midst of analysing my data and I've run into [describes a specific problem]. How should I handle it?

One of my committee members doesn't believe that X method is valid. How can I respond to this challenge?

I have a student who wants to do X method, but I have no training in that myself. What can I advise him or her?

Don't worry that your query might seem too elementary – our Instructors welcome questions on anything about a method or approach, at any level!

Methods Café tables

To read biographies of our Instructors, including relevant research interests, search for their names under the 'Course List' tab of the Winter School page at **www.ecpr.eu**

Table 1 – Interpretive
Ethnographic, conceptual analysis, analyticism and pragmatism; Working with qualitative / interpretive data

- Frederic Schaffer
- Dvora Yanow
- Patrick Jackson
- Marie Østergaard Møller

Q Ask them Questions relating to their courses; also broader questions relating to interpretive designs and methods. Questions about working with qualitative/interpretive research designs and data.

Table 2 – Variance-based
Regression

- Martin Mölder
- Michał Kotnarowski
- Levente Littvay

Q Ask them Questions about regression models, and how to use them properly in your own research.

Table 3 – Case-based
Comparative historical methods and process tracing

- Hilde van Meegdenburg
- Markus Kreuzer
- Derek Beach

Q Ask them Questions relating to case study methods, and how to use them in your own research.

Table 4 – Variance-based
Making causal inferences in variance-based approaches

- Michael Gebel
- Alberto Stefanelli
- Bruno Castanho Silva

Q Ask them Questions on experimental and quasi-experimental designs and their implementation in social science or policy impact evaluation contexts.

Table 5 – Interpretive
Qualitative interviewing, focus groups and online ethnography; Working with qualitative / interpretive data

- Lea Sgier
- Virginie van Ingelgom
- Bojana Lobe
- Marie-Hélène Paré

Q Ask them Questions relating to qualitative interviewing techniques, and online ethnographic methods. Questions about working with qualitative/interpretive research designs and data.

Table 6 – Variance-based
Big data, text, social media and network analysis

- Kostas Gemenis
- Taehee Kim
- Silvia Fierăscu

Q Ask them Questions on big data and quantitative text analysis. How Python – a script language that handles massive amounts of diversely structured online data – can work with social media data.

Table 7 – Variance-based
Introductory approaches to variance-based data collection and analysis

- Kathrin Thomas
- Julia Koltai
- Florian Weiler

Q Ask them How to venture into quantitative research. These Instructors' courses are a great entry into statistical approaches.

Table 8 – Variance-based
Advanced approaches

- Lasse Gerrits
- Paul Thurner
- Susumu Shikano

Q Ask them Questions about any advanced techniques!

Table 9 – Variance-based
Dealing with time

- David Pupovac
- Janez Stare
- Andrew X. Li

Q Ask them How to incorporate the passage of time into your models.

Table 10 – Cross-cutting
Comparative research designs

- Benoît Rihoux
- Carsten Q. Schneider
- Eva Thomann

Q Ask them A broad range of questions on comparative designs.