

## Multimethod Research in Political Science

Date: 14.07.2016

Phone: 0421 218 66410

Email: rohlfing@bigsss.uni-bremen.de

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The course introduces participants to the central idea underlying multimethod research (MMR) and principles and challenges in implementing it. In this course, multimethod research is understood as the combination of a large-n or medium-n method, usually a statistical method or QCA, with process tracing. We start the course by working out the rationale of MMR and the conditions under which it is more and less sensible to do. Furthermore, we position multimethod research in the broader framework of mixed-method research that is more common in education and parts of sociology.

In the second part of the workshop, we address three particular challenges in MMR. These include concept formation and operationalization, case selection for process tracing and generalization. We finish the workshop with a short list of best practices in multimethod research.

Time	Topic
9.00-10.15	Rationale of MMR and when (not) to do it (Ahmed/Sil 2012; Creswell/Clark; Lieberman 2005)
10.15-10.30	First break
10.30-11.00	Concept formation (Ahram 2013)
11.00-12.00	Case selection (Lieberman 2005; Seawright/Gerring 2008)
12.00-12.10	Second break
12.10-13.30	Case selection, generalization and best practices

### Literature

- Ahmed, Amel and Rudra Sil (2012): When Multi-Method Research Subverts Methodological Pluralism—or, Why We Still Need Single-Method Research. *Perspectives on Politics* 10 (4): 935-953.
- Ahram, Ariel I. (2013): Concepts and Measurement in Multimethod Research. *Political Research Quarterly* 66 (2): 280-291.
- Creswell, John W. and Vicki L. Plano Clark (2011): *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*. Los Angeles: SAGE Publications: chap. 3
- Lieberman, Evan S. (2005): Nested Analysis as a Mixed-Method Strategy for Comparative Research. *American Political Science Review* 99 (3): 435-452.
- Schneider, Carsten Q. and Ingo Rohlfing (2013): Combining QCA and Process Tracing in Set-Theoretic Multi-Method Research. *Sociological Methods & Research* 42 (4): 559-597. (optional, if interested in QCA)
- Seawright, Jason and John Gerring (2008): Case Selection Techniques in Case Study Research: A Menu of Qualitative and Quantitative Options. *Political Research Quarterly* 61 (2): 294-308.