## KentVision Code and title of the module

POLI8100 Quantitative Methodology for Political Science

## Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

Division of Human and Social Sciences

## The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 7

## The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

20 credits (10 ECTS)

## Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

Autumn or Spring

## Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

POLI9640 Research Methods Training I

## The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

Required module for all students on PhD courses in the School of Politics and International Relations (in compliance with the requirements to provide advanced research training under the ESRC DTC) and an optional module for all other MA courses taught in the School of Politics and International Relations.

## The intended subject specific learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

The core competencies of students successfully completing this course will include:

8.1 Essential statistical literacy:

8.1.1 The ability to read, understand, and critically assess quantitative research in political science (including Comparative Behaviour, Conflict, and International Relations)

8.1.2 Assess research designs that incorporate quantitative methodologies, conceptualizations, and operationalizations common to political science

8.1.3 Discern appropriateness of applied statistical techniques to the level and type of data used in political science.

8.1.4 Develop an understanding of strengths and weaknesses of the most common as well as prevailing types of models and statistical methods specific to political science.

8.1.5 Appraise the use of survey data (cross-sectional, panel, inter alia), cross-national and cross-regional data (indicators of political and economic performance), and conflict indicators (ethnic conflict, war, etc.…) used broadly in the comparative behaviour and international conflict fields.

8.2 Statistical abilities:

8.2.1 The ability to determine and apply statistical techniques appropriate to the data, question, and theory under investigation

8.2.2 Use statistical techniques to test an argument/hypothesis of a political phenomenon

8.2.3 To understand the limitations of statistical techniques for research in political science

8.2.4 Generate descriptive and inferential statistics using statistical software

8.2.5 Interpret and analyse computer generated statistical output.

8.3 Research Skills:

8.3.1 Rigorously employ quantitative methodology to address research questions in political science

8.3.2 Present quantitative research in a clear, informative, and effective manner

8.3.3 Evaluate other disciplinary quantitative research critically.

## The intended generic learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

9.1 Work with, manipulate, and use quantitative data

9.2 Develop and expand their computing skills (IT)

* 1. Have an understanding of the formal scientific method

9.4 Engage with quantitative work in their discipline.

## A synopsis of the curriculum

The module is designed around 12 lectures and 10 one-hour seminars for hands-on computer work. The course is aimed at introducing students to the fundamentals of quantitative methodology in political science (applicable to all social sciences). The course proceeds from the grounding theoretical issues of quantitative work, data manipulation, and formal analysis. It builds students’ knowledge by developing the most common and – useful – quantitative methods in the discipline including: univariate, bivariate, and multivariate description and analysis. Finally, significant attention will be given to inferential statistics as it represents the most visible aspect of modern political science.

## Reading list

The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the university's [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

## Contact Hours

Private Study: 178

Contact Hours: 22

Total: 200

## Assessment methods

* 1. Main assessment methods
* Essay (research ideas) 2500-3000 words, 60%
* Assignments, Moodle Quizzes 40%
  1. Reassessment methods
* Reassessment Instrument: 100% coursework

## Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods and methods of assessment (section 13)

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | **8.1** | **8.2** | **8.3** | **9.1** | **9.2** | **9.3** | **9.4** |
| Lectures | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seminars | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Independent Study | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | **8.1** | **8.2** | **8.3** | **9.1** | **9.2** | **9.3** | **9.4** |
| Essay | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Assignments | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

## Inclusive module design

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

## Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

Canterbury

## Internationalisation

Examples of international contexts and organisations will be used where applicable to illustrate the subject content. Students will have the opportunity to develop the ability to think globally and have an understanding of international cultures through working with team members and students within their cohort, from diverse range of backgrounds.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Module record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

| Date approved | New/Major/Minor revision | Start date of delivery of (revised) version | Section revised (if applicable) | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 26.04.16 | Minor | September 2016 | 5 | No |
| 04.02.21 | Minor | September 2020 | 13,14 | No |
| 29.03.22 | Minor | September 2022 | 6 | No |
| 14.11.22 | Minor | September 2023 | 14 | No |