

UC Berkeley Summer Sessions Student Orientation Guide

POL SCI W3

Introduction to Empirical Analysis and Quantitative Methods
June 22 -August 14, 2020

Expected Student Workload

The estimated workload for this course is **10-15 hours per week**. In order to be successful in the course, you need to allocate at least this much time per week, if not more.

Preparing for Your Course

Textbooks/Course Materials

- Paul M. Kellstedt and Guy D. Whitten, *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*. Third Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. (Note: There are first and second editions of this book floating around. I cannot say how these editions differ from the third. However, the lectures, assignments, and exams assume the third edition.)
- Other readings for this course will be available on bCourses

Computer Requirements

- Internet
 - Canvas has been carefully crafted to accommodate low bandwidth environments
 - Minimum of 512kbps
- Operating System
 - Windows 7 and newer
 - Mac OSX 10.6 and newer
 - Linux – chromeOS
- Mobile Operating System Native App Support
 - iOS 7 and newer (versions vary by device)
 - Android 4.2 and newer
- Computer Speed and Processor
 - Use a computer five years old or newer when possible
 - 1 GB of RAM
 - 2 GHz processor
- Screen Size
 - A minimum of 800x600 – (Average size of a netbook)
 - If you want to use a device with a smaller screen it is recommended to use the Canvas [mobile app](#).
- Screen Readers (only needed for students who are blind, visually impaired or have a learning disability)
 - Macintosh: [VoiceOver](#) (latest version for Safari)

- PC: [JAWS](#) (latest version for Internet Explorer)
- PC: [NVDA](#) (latest version for Firefox)
- There is NO screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome

Course Log-on

- Classroom – bcourses.berkeley.edu
 - You will need to authenticate and login with your CalNet ID and passphrase
 - If you don't already have your CalNet ID contact CalNet directly
 - calnet@berkeley.edu or 510-642-4126
- [Personalize your settings](#) (only takes a minute)
- [Setting up your notification preferences](#) (you can choose to receive course communication through a personal email account or mobile device)
 - We recommend setting your preference for receiving Announcements to ASAP (via text or email) in case we need to contact you on short notice
- Tech Support
 - In your course, click on the “Help” button on the bottom left of the global navigation menu

Access to Your Course

- You will be able to access the Orientation Module one week prior to the official start date
- Read and accept the UC Berkeley Academic Integrity Pledge
- Module 1 will open on the first day of class

PLEASE NOTE: You will NOT be able to launch Module 1 on the first day of class until you read and accept the UC Berkeley Academic Integrity Pledge.

Learning Activities

- Read the assigned textbook pages
- Watch the video lecture presentations
- Read web-based announcements and postings assigned during the course
- Compose and post assigned responses to lectures and readings
- Complete writing assignments
- Complete the midterm exam, and final exam

Students with Disabilities

- If you are requiring course accommodations due to a physical, emotional, or learning disability contact the [UC Berkeley's Disabled Students' Program \(DSP\)](#).
- Notify the instructor and GSI through course email and inform them which accommodations you would like to use.

Final Exam

- Due to the COVID-19 crisis our proctoring model is in the process of being updated; however, please be aware that you will not be taking any Summer final exams in person at Berkeley or at a proctoring center.

- On the start date of your course, review the syllabus in bCourses for updates on the final exam process, and be sure to communicate with your instructor during the course about any questions you have about your final.

Have Questions?

Email summer_online_support@berkeley.edu