

DETAILED CONTENTS

Tables, Figures, and Features	xv
Preface	xxi
About the Authors	xxvii
 Chapter 1 • Introduction	 1
Research on Income Inequality	5
Politics and the Gender Gap	9
The Case of Italian (Non) Tax Compliance	15
Protests and Repression in New Democracies	18
The Observer Effect in International Politics: Evidence from a Natural Experiment	20
Conclusion	22
Terms Introduced	23
 Chapter 2 • The Empirical Approach to Political Science	 25
Elements of Empiricism	26
The Importance of Theory	31
An Example: Proximity Theory of Voting	31
The Explanatory Range of Theories	33
A Brief Overview of the Empirical Research Process	33
Development of an Idea to Investigate or a Problem to Solve	34
Hypothesis Formation	34
"Data" Collection	34
Interpretation and Decision	34
Modification and Extension	35
Reactions to the Empirical Approach: Practical Objections	35
Self-Reflection and individuality	36
Is Political Science Trivial or Irrelevant?	37
Competing Points of View	38
Interpretation	39
Constructionism and Critical Theory	40
Conclusion	43
Terms Introduced	43
Suggested Readings	44

Chapter 3 • Beginning the Research Process: Identifying a Research Topic, Developing Research Questions, and Reviewing the Literature	49
Specifying the Research Question	49
Sources of Ideas for Research Topics	51
Why Conduct a Literature Review?	54
Collecting Sources for a Literature Review	55
Identifying the Relevant Scholarly Literature	56
Managing Citations	59
Identifying Useful Popular Sources	60
Reading the Literature	62
Writing a Literature Review	63
Anatomy of a Literature Review	65
Scientific Relevance	66
Building a Theory	67
Disagreement in the Literature	68
Data and Methods	69
Conclusion	70
Terms Introduced	70
Suggested Readings	70
 Chapter 4 • The Building Blocks of Social Scientific Research: Hypotheses, Concepts, Variables, and Measurement	 73
Proposing Explanations	73
Variables	74
Formulating Hypotheses	77
Characteristics of Good Hypotheses	77
Specifying Units of Analysis	84
Cross-Level Analysis: Ecological Inference and Ecological Fallacy	85
Defining Concepts	86
Devising Measurement Strategies	88
The Accuracy of Measurements	90
Reliability	90
Validity	91
The Precision of Measurements	92
Levels of Measurement	92
Working with Precision: Too Little or Too Much	95
Conclusion	96
Terms Introduced	96
Suggested Readings	98

Chapter 5 • Sampling	101
The Basics of Sampling	102
How Do We Use a Sample to Learn about a Population?	103
Sampling Distribution	104
Sample Size and Margin of Error	107
Sampling Methods	108
Types of Samples	109
Simple Random Samples	111
Systematic Random Samples	112
Stratified Samples	112
Cluster Samples	114
Nonprobability Samples	114
Conclusion	117
Terms Introduced	117
Suggested Readings	119
 Chapter 6 • Research Design: Establishing Causation	 121
Verifying Causal Assertions	122
Causal versus Spurious Relationships	122
The Classical Randomized Experiment	124
Internal Validity	127
External Validity	129
Qualitative and Quantitative Methods and Analysis:	
Causes-of-Effects and Effects-of-Causes Approaches	130
Conclusion	132
Terms Introduced	132
Suggested Readings	133
 Chapter 7 • Qualitative Research: Case Study Designs	 135
Case Study Methods	135
Case Study Types	137
Purposes of Case Studies	137
The Logic of Case Selection and Case Comparison	138
Using Cases to Explore Causal Mechanisms: Process Tracing	140
Generalizing from Case Studies	145
Conclusion	146
Terms Introduced	146
Suggested Readings	147

Chapter 8 • Making Empirical Observations:	149
Qualitative Analysis	
Types of Data and Collection Techniques	149
Choosing among Data Collection Methods	153
Data Collection in Qualitative Research	156
Observation	156
Conclusion	164
Terms Introduced	165
Suggested Readings	166
Chapter 9 • Quantitative Research Designs	169
Randomized Experimental Designs	169
Posttest Design	170
Repeated-Measurement Design	170
Multiple-Group Design	172
Randomized Field Experiments	172
Natural Experiments	174
Nonrandomized Designs: Quasi-Experiments	181
Observational Studies	182
Cross-Sectional Design	183
Longitudinal (Time Series) Designs	184
Conclusion	190
Terms Introduced	190
Suggested Readings	191
Chapter 10 • Quantitative Methods	193
The Wide Variety of Quantitative Projects	193
Sources of Data for Quantitative Studies	194
Content Analysis	194
Content Analysis Procedures	195
Surveys	196
Questionnaire Design Issues	196
Question Wording	197
Question Order	199
Survey Types	200
Data Management	202
Finding and Downloading Data	203
Recording Data	204
Managing Data	204
Ethical Concerns with Quantitative Methods	206
Conclusion	207

Terms Introduced	207
Suggested Readings	207
Chapter 11 • Making Sense of Data: First Steps	211
The Data Matrix	211
Data Description and Exploration	212
Frequency Distributions, Proportions, and Percentages	213
Descriptive Statistics	214
Measures of Central Tendency	215
Resistant Measures	217
Measures of Dispersion	218
Graphs for Presentation and Exploration	226
Designing and Drawing Graphs	228
Bar Charts	229
Exploratory Graphs	229
Conclusion	235
Terms Introduced	236
Suggested Readings	237
Chapter 12 • Testing Relationships	239
The Normal Distribution and z Scores	239
Confidence Intervals	243
Population Confidence Intervals	243
Sample Confidence Intervals	247
Hypothesis Testing	249
Types of Hypotheses	249
Steps for Hypothesis Testing	252
Difference of Means Tests	253
Testing Hypotheses about Proportions	256
Reinforcing Interpretation of Hypothesis Testing	257
Testing a Relationship with Two Samples	260
Difference of Means with Related Samples	260
Difference of Means with Independent Samples	261
Confidence Interval with Two Samples	263
Conclusion	264
Terms Introduced	264
Suggested Readings	265
Chapter 13 • Analyzing Relationships for Categorical Data	267
The Basics of Identifying and Measuring Relationships	267
Level of Measurement	268
Types of Relationships	268

Table Summaries of Categorical Variable Associations	269
Measuring Strength of Relationships in Tables	275
Direction of a Relationship	277
Measures of Association: Statistics for Reporting the Strength of Relationships in Tables	278
A Coefficient for Nominal Data	279
Coefficients for Ordinal Variables	282
Chi-Square Test for Independence	287
Multivariate Analysis of Categorical Data	290
Analysis of Variance: Analyzing the Difference between Means for More Than Two Means	299
Explained and Unexplained Variation	299
Significance Test for Analysis of Variance	302
Conclusion	304
Terms Introduced	305
Suggested Readings	306
Chapter 14 • Regression	307
Logic of Regression	307
The Classical Assumptions of Linear Regression Models	307
Scatterplots	309
Minimizing the Sum of the Squared Error	310
The Linear Regression Model	312
Regression	313
Measuring Correlation: Pearson's r	318
Measuring the Fit of a Regression Line: R-Squared	318
Multivariate Regression	319
Interpreting Regression Tables	321
Categorical Independent Variables	323
Maximum Likelihood Models for Dichotomous Dependent Variables	324
The Logic of Maximum Likelihood	325
Interpreting a Logistic Regression Table	325
Predicted Probabilities	327
Conclusion	328
Terms Introduced	329
Suggested Readings	329
Chapter 15 • The Research Report: An Annotated Example	331
Annotated Research Report Example	332

Appendixes	345
Appendix A: Normal Curve Tail Probabilities	345
Appendix B: Critical Values from t Distribution	346
Appendix C: Chi-Squared Distribution Values for Various Right-Tail Probabilities	347
Appendix D: F Distribution	348
Glossary	351
Index	359