

Bush 631: Research Design Task III

Unpacking methods in the literature

Instructions

This document provides you with instructions regarding the third research design task - unpacking methodology in the literature.

Below, you will find a list of four recent studies related to public policy and international affairs/foreign policy. The papers cover different types of methodologies, all of which were discussed in class and the textbook.

You are asked to select **two(2)** of these studies and answer all the questions for each study. The questions focus on identifying different elements of the research design and methods that are implemented in the study. In addition, there are questions about the theoretical argument and main issue under discussion. In your answers, provide as much details as your can, write legibly, and in an orderly fashion (submit your answers on a word or pdf files).

For this task, you are asked to **work by yourself**.

The deadline for submitting the task (Canvas) is **November 16, 2021**.

The Papers

Here are the four research papers to choose from. For a direct link to Google Scholar, click on the article's title:

1. Milton, D., Jadoon, A., and Jason Warner. (2021). "Needs or Symbols? The Logic of United Nations Counterterrorism Treaty Ratification", *International Studies Quarterly*, Online first.
2. Lupton, D. (2021). "Military Experience and Elite Decision-Making: Self-Selection, Socialization, and the Vietnam Draft Lottery", *International Studies Quarterly*, Online first.

3. Song, M., An, S. H., and Kenneth Meier. (2021). "Quality standards, implementation autonomy, and citizen satisfaction with public services: cross-national evidence.", *Public Management Review*, 23(6), 906-928.
4. Chapman, T. L., and Stephen Chaudoin. (2020). "Public Reactions to International Legal Institutions: The International Criminal Court in a Developing Democracy.", *The Journal of Politics*, 82(4), 1305-1320.

Unpacking methodology: The Questions

For each study, answer the following questions:

1. What is the objective of the author/authors in this study?
2. What is the primary theoretical argument/explanation presented by the author/authors?
3. Which research design is used in this study? How do the authors justify the selection of this type of design?
Or, how does this design help in evaluating the main research questions?
4. Discuss the aspects of internal and external validity of the chosen research design for the study.
5. Describe the data used in this study: How was the data collected? What are the units of analysis? What is the size of the data? For a survey, describe the sample: who are the respondents? What is the sample size and any specific characteristics of respondents.
6. What is/are the **dependent variable(s)**? What is the operational definition given by the authors?
7. What is/are the **independent variable(s)**? What is the operational definition given by the authors?
8. What is/are the **control/confounding variable(s)**? What is the operational definition given by the authors?
9. Detail the measures and scales for each of the variables? (you can use a table to answer this question).
10. Describe at least one interesting finding that appears in either a table or figure format. What is the main implication of this finding?

Goodluck!!!