UCLouvain bpols1330

Quantitative methods I: data production

5.00 credits

2023

30.0 h + 15.0 h

Q1

Teacher(s)	Gurnet Nathan (compensates Marquis Nicolas) ;Marquis Nicolas ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Bruxelles Saint-Louis				
Prerequisites	The prerequisite(s) for this Teaching Unit (Unité d'enseignement – UE) for the programmes/courses that offer this Teaching Un are specified at the end of this sheet.				
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to : - Mastery the basis of the quantitative data's epistemology - Ability to produce a questionnaire - Mastery of basic logical operations - Mastery of the vocabulary, basic operations and handling of a database - Ability to realize several basic transformations of variables - Initiation to statistics and secondary data analysis - Being able to read and assess an social science paper using quantitative analysis				
Evaluation methods	Students will be assessed 1) through a deliverable that will be a group assignment – instructions will be given during the first lesson and made available on Moodle (50%), 2) through an 2-hours-examination at the end of the term (50%). The global mark is the geometric average of the two parts: Scare root of [(PointsExamen/20)*(PointsTravail/20)]				
Teaching methods	The course will be taught ex-cathedra 2h/week and will provide the theoretical elements needed to meet the learning outcomes. We will make use of concrete situation, and clarify which good practices to develop in quantitative surveys. (An important precision follows at the end of this document). The practical exercises (TP) will require commitment from the students, as they are set to allow them to put in practice the theoretical elements presented during the course, in particular : creating and making use of a questionnaire from a research question, interviewing respondents, creation of a database and transforming variables. Exchanges between students as well as with teaching assistant and the teacher will be fostered. These sessions are also intended to help students realize the expected deliverable (cf. below).				
Content	1 Introduction : « healthy suspicion in statistics » 2 Epistemology 1 : what is quantitative research ? 3 Epistemology 2 : what is quantitative data ? 4 Producing a research questionnaire 6 Interviewing respondents with a questionnaire 7 Basics in database handling 8 Working on variables 9 Descriptive statistics and assessment of the sample 10 Working on second hand data : existing databases 11 Assessing a paper making use of quantitative analysis 12 Focus : quantitative survey through internet 13 Q-A				
Bibliography	Sera communiquée au fil du cours. Les slides et d'autres éléments seront disponibles via Moodle.				

Other infos	At the university level, it is up to the students to decide wether they attend to the lessons or not. Teacher and assistants of course recommend a maximal attendance at both lessons and TPs. Except in the event of force majeure, non-attendance and its potential consequence are the student's sole responsibility. In the same way, students are free to organize their time during the academic year. Once again, we recommend a continuous assessment of the course comprehension AS WELL AS a continuous commitment in the deliverable. Students who decide no to follow those instructions and who would unfortunately fail at the January examination round should be aware that no catching-up session will be organized in the second term, nor in ex-cathedra teaching, nor in informal meetings with teaching assistants. The course content, about which the students were allowed to ask questions during the first term will be considered as seen and understood. Students who failed in January will of course be given the opportunity to get explanation about their deliverable and examination, but it is their sole responsibility to bring the needed improvement at June or August sessions.
Faculty or entity in charge	ESPB

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Bachelor in Information and Communication	COMB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		
Bachelor in Information and Communication (French- English)	COAB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		
Bachelor in Information and Communication (French-Dutch- English)	COTB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology	SOCB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology (French-English)	SOAB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology (French-Dutch- English)	SOTB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		
Bachelor in Political Sciences	SPOB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		
Bachelor in Political Sciences (French-English)	SPAB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		
Bachelor in Political Sciences (French-Dutch-English)	SPTB1BA	5	BPOLS1231	٩		