

## Comparative Methods- From the Local to the Global (Advanced methodology course – practice-related methods)

Title	Comparative Methods- From the Local to the Global (Advanced methodology course – practice-related methods)
Semester	F2023
Master programme in	Global Studies / Internationale udviklingsstudier / International Public Administration and Politics / Global and Development Studies / International Politics and Governance / European Master in Global Studies
Type of activity	Course
Teaching language	English
Study regulation	

### REGISTRATION AND STUDY ADMINISTRATIVE

Registration	<p>Registration is through <a href="#">stads selvbetjening</a> within the announced registration period, as you can see on the <a href="#">Studyadministration homepage</a>.</p> <p>When registering for study activities, please be aware of the potential conflicts between study activities or exam dates. The planning of activities at Roskilde University is based on the recommended study programs which do not overlap. However, if you choose optional courses and/or study plans that goes beyond the recommended study programs, an overlap of lectures or exam dates may occur depending on which courses you choose.</p>
Number of participants	
ECTS	5
Responsible for the activity	Olivier Rubin ( <a href="mailto:rubin@ruc.dk">rubin@ruc.dk</a> )
Head of study	( <a href="mailto:NONE@ruc.dk">NONE@ruc.dk</a> )
Teachers	
Study administration	ISE Registration & Exams ( <a href="mailto:ise-exams@ruc.dk">ise-exams@ruc.dk</a> )
Exam code(s)	U60378

### ACADEMIC CONTENT

Overall objective	<p>A practice-oriented methodology course aims to equip students to competently apply a given technique or tool that is frequently used in practice.</p> <p>The course equips students to argue for the applicability and relevance of the technique or tool to the problem, and to apply the technique or tool in work situations.</p>
Detailed description of content	<p>"Conducting comparisons is an integral part of almost all research and academic practices. This course allows participants to master different comparison strategies and provides insights into the advantages and disadvantages of various methods for comparisons on different analytical levels. These skills should help participants in practice to improve the research design of various studies such as projects or master theses.</p> <p>Participants are introduced to both basic as well as advanced tools for conducting political comparisons including (but not limited to) single-country comparisons; few country comparisons; many countries comparisons; counterfactual and before/after comparisons; deductive comparisons; inductive comparisons; most similar case comparisons; most different case comparisons; the nested approach for comparisons, and fuzzy sets comparisons.</p> <p>Emphasis will be given to displaying the utility of these comparative tools and approaches in practice, across local, regional and global levels. The students will also be exposed to critical reflection on these approaches and tools.</p> <p>"</p>
Course material and Reading list	<p>"The course readings might be subject to minor changes – see moodle for final version.</p> <p>Bjørnskov, C. (2007). Determinants of generalized trust: A cross-country comparison. <i>Public choice</i>, 130(1-2), 1-21.</p> <p>Ebbinghaus, B. (2005). When Less is More Selection Problems in Large-N and Small-N Cross-National Comparisons. <i>International sociology</i>, 20(2), 133-152.</p> <p>Evertsson, N. (2017). A nested analysis of electoral donations. <i>Journal of Mixed Methods Research</i>, 11(1), pp. 77-98</p> <p>Flyvbjerg, B. (2006). Five misunderstandings about case-study research. <i>Qualitative inquiry</i>, 12(2), 219-245.</p> <p>Healy, K. (2017). Fuck nuance. <i>Sociological Theory</i>, 35(2), 118-127</p> <p>Kvist, J. (2006). Diversity, ideal types and fuzzy sets in comparative welfare state research. In <i>Innovative comparative methods for policy analysis</i> (pp. 167-184). Springer US.</p> <p>Landman, T. &amp; Carvalho, E. (2017) <i>Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction</i>, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 1: Why compare countries, pp. 3-28.</p> <p>Landman, T. &amp; Carvalho, E. (2017) <i>Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction</i>, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 2: How to compare countries, pp. 29-56.</p>

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 5: Single- country studies as comparison, pp. 86-96.

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 6 Economic Development and Democracy: Single-country studies, pp. 123-26.

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 9 Transitions to Democracy: Comparing many countries, pp. 197-203.

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 4: Comparing few countries, pp. 72-85.

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 6 Economic Development and Democracy: Comparing few countries, pp. 110-122.

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 9 Transitions to Democracy: Comparing few countries, pp. 188-196.

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 3: Comparing many countries, pp. 57-71.

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 6 Economic Development and Democracy: Comparing many countries, pp. 103-109

Landman, T. & Carvalho, E. (2017) *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics An Introduction*, 4th Edition. Abingdon: Routledge. Chapter 9 Transitions to Democracy: Comparing many countries, pp. 181-187.

Lieberman, E. S. (2005). Nested analysis as a mixed-method strategy for comparative research. *American Political Science Review*, 99(03), 435-452.

Lijphart, A. (1971). Comparative politics and the comparative method. *American political science review*, 65(03), 682-693. *Political Science Review*, 99(03), 435-452.

Mahoney, J. (2007). Qualitative methodology and comparative politics. *Comparative Political Studies*, 40(2), 122-144.

Messerli, F. (2012) Chocolate Consumption, Cognitive Function, and Nobel Laureates, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, p. 1-3

Ragin, C. C. (2009). *Redesigning social inquiry: Fuzzy sets and beyond*. University of Chicago Press., pp. 1-68.

Rohlfing, I. (2008). What You See and What You Get Pitfalls and Principles of Nested Analysis in Comparative Research. *Comparative Political Studies*, 41(11), 1492-1514.

Seawright, J., & Gerring, J. (2008). Case selection techniques in case study research a menu of qualitative and quantitative options. *Political Research Quarterly*, 61 (2), 294-308.

Snyder, R. (2001). Scaling down: The subnational comparative method. *Studies in Comparative International Development (SCID)*, 36(1), 93-110.

Tarrow, S. (1996). Making social science work across space and time: A critical reflection on Robert Putnam's *Making Democracy Work*. *American political science review*, 90(02), 389-397.

Thomas, G. (2011). A typology for the case study in social science following a review of definition, discourse, and structure. *Qualitative inquiry*, 17(6), 511-521.

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Overall plan and expected work effort

The course is a 5 ECTS and has a total of 135 working hours for students. The hours are thought to be divided as follows: course participation 20 hours; preparation for courses: 75 hours; exam preparation 10; exam assignment 30 hours.

Format

Evaluation and feedback

"The activity are evaluated regularly regarding the study board evaluation procedure. The activity responsible will be orientated about a potential evaluation of the activity at semesterstart. Se link to the study board evaluation praxis here <https://intra.ruc.dk/nc/for-ansatte/organisering/raadnaevn-og-udvalg/oversigt-over-studienaevn/studienaevn-for-internationale-studier/arbejdet-medkvalitet-i-uddannelserne/>"

Programme

See moodle.

## ASSESSMENT

Overall learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain and evaluate key concepts relating to the given technique or tool, using academically relevant terminology
- Argue for the utility of the technique or tool in practice
- Master the application of the basic functions of the given technique or tool
- Take a critical position in relation to the use of the technique or tool in practice.

Form of examination

Individual written take-home assignment.

The character limit of the assignment is: maximum 12,000 characters, including spaces.

The character limit includes the cover, table of contents, bibliography, figures and other illustrations, but exclude any appendices.

The duration of the take-home assignment is 48 hours and may include weekends and public holidays.

	Assessment: 7-point grading scale.
Form of Re-examination	Samme som ordinær eksamen / same form as ordinary exam
Type of examination in special cases	
Examination and assessment criteria	<p>"Explain and apply key concepts and approaches relating to key comparative tools and approaches such the most-different research design, most-similar research design, nested approach, fuzzy sets and others.</p> <p>Argue for the utility of these comparative tools and approaches in practice, across local, regional and global levels.</p> <p>Master the application of these comparative tools and approaches, including the selection of cases, to concrete cases at different levels.</p> <p>Take a critical position in relation to the use of these comparative tools and approaches in practice. "</p>
Exam code(s)	Exam code(s) : U60378

Course days:

Hold: 1

## Comparative Methods - From the Local to the Global (GDS, IPG)

time	01-03-2023 08:15 til 01-03-2023 12:00
forberedelsesnorm	ikke valgt
forberedelsesnorm D-VIP	ikke valgt
location	07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)
Teacher	Olivier Rubin ( rubin@ruc.dk )

## Comparative Methods - From the Local to the Global (GDS, IPG)

time	08-03-2023 08:15 til 08-03-2023 12:00
location	07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Olivier Rubin ( rubin@ruc.dk )

## Comparative Methods - From the Local to the Global (GDS, IPG)

time 15-03-2023 08:15 til  
15-03-2023 12:00

location 07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Olivier Rubin ( rubin@ruc.dk )

## Comparative Methods - From the Local to the Global (GDS, IPG)

time 22-03-2023 08:15 til  
22-03-2023 12:00

location 07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Olivier Rubin ( rubin@ruc.dk )

## Comparative Methods - From the Local to the Global (GDS, IPG)

time 29-03-2023 08:15 til  
29-03-2023 12:00

location 07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Olivier Rubin ( rubin@ruc.dk )

## Comparative Methods - From the Local to the Global - Exam (GDS, IPG)

time 08-05-2023 10:00 til  
10-05-2023 10:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt

## Comparative Methods - From the Local to the Global - Reexam (GDS, IPG)

time 16-08-2023 10:00 til  
18-08-2023 10:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt