

First Annual Sociology Quant Methods Summer Discussion  
Series

Dear Inquiring Sociological Minds,

In response to popular demand (or at least not hearing any vigorous objections), we are pleased to announce the First Annual Sociology Quantitative Methods Summer Discussion Series to run July 13 - 29.

Schedule Summer 2021

Sessions will run from 1:00-2:30pm on the following dates.  
Session leaders will be Ernesto Amaral (EA) and Mark Fossett (MF)

Date	Topic
1	July 13 EA - Analysis using Survey Weights
2	July 15 EA - Refresher on OLS and WLS regression
3	July 20 MF - Ordered Logit and Fractional Regression
4	July 27 MF - Path Analysis & Structural Equation Models (SEM)
5	July 29 MF - Workflow for Reproducible Results & Publications

Zoom

Meeting: <https://tamu.zoom.us/j/94955908878?pwd=ell3M0tVY0VS R2pSYkRHSTY5WWRwQT09>

Meeting ID: 949 5590 8878

Passcode: sociology

Email Peggy Carris (psm936@tamu.edu) or Luz Cisneros (ccisneros@tamu.edu) to be added to our email distribution list (for meeting invites) and to gain access to the online resources.

Purpose:

This summer discussion series is an experiment. The goal is to provide a forum where sociology graduate students (and others who may be interested) can refresh their memories on topics covered in required quantitative methods courses and also get overviews of and introductions to topics not typically covered in the required courses.

Format:

Ernesto Amaral (EA) and Mark Fossett (MF) will alternate leading discussion sessions focusing on six topics we selected on the basis of an informal survey of graduate student interest.

Each discussion session will include an initial presentation of 45-60 minutes geared to providing an overview of the topic, commenting on reasons for using the methodology under consideration, noting the basic elements of the method and its strengths and limitations, and reviewing empirical applications. An additional 30 minutes will be given to questions, comments, and free range discussion.

Resources:

The discussion series will make resources available online. This will include suggested readings, example programs and data sets, presentation slide sets, and other related materials.

Support:

Peggy Carris and Luz Cisneros will provide limited support in areas such as: promoting the discussion series, helping folks gain access to materials, helping folks work with example programs and data sets, and receiving questions, comments, and suggestions. (Many thanks to

Interim Department Head Pat Goldsmith for making this possible.)

#### Expectations:

There are no requirements, evaluations, or hoops to jump through. Attendance and participation are strictly voluntary on a topic-by-topic basis. Investing time to review suggested readings in advance of discussion session will likely be useful as will exploring example programs. But invest time as you are able and know you are welcome to attend and participate in any and all sessions that interest you.

#### Sometimes Experiments Become Institutions

Let us know if you view this experiment as potentially useful to you. If feedback and participation are encouraging, we will try to organize a similar discussion series during the regular academic year.