Bachelor in Politics and International Studies
Bachelor in Sociology

Digital Data, Data Collection (QS102)

Week 10
Data treatments

WARWICK — 1 — P. Blanchard-QS102 — Week 9

Feedback on course evaluation

- You liked…
    - A different perspective on social sciences than other courses
    - Freedom on essay topics
    - Exchange dynamic in class
    - Weekly readings
    - External talks
    - Lecturer's enthousiasm
    - Extensive feedback on formative essay

- You did not like…
    - Timetable and organisation
    - Too intense, too long (3 hours the same day)
    - Pressure on silent students

- You were shared on…
    - Group work
    - Data analysis, statistics, Excel

WARWICK — 2 — P. Blanchard-QS102 — Week 10

Jiang 2013 (mainly pages 2-8)

- What is the research question and is it justified?

- Why is online gaming an interesting focus?

- What are the different ways authors formulate causality?

- Do you think the sample is well designed and its composition fits the purpose of the study? Would there have been alternative ways of finding respondents?

- Do you understand what the "inter-rater reliability" and the "reliability α" are?

- The treatments are more advanced than studied in our seminar, but could you achieve some results by applying the tools studied in class to the article's data?

Do not forget…

1. Treat all the 7 steps.
2. Find the right grain to your research question.
3. Justify all methodological choices. Be too explicit rather than not enough.
4. Back up any non trivial assertion with the literature, a course, your experience, even your intuition.
5. Respect formal norms and write clearly.
6. Restrain yourself to the essential treatments.
7. Limit yourself to results that fit to your RQ.
8. In assessing an "official" survey, do not be impressed by its formal presentation. There are always limits and mistakes.
9. Let a class mate or a friend review your essay before delivering it.
10. Be creative!
11. Cite the questionnaire and other relevant documentation when needed. Join them as appendices to your essay (or by email to me directly).

Introduction to spreadsheet software: Exercises

1. Download and open the *Media and Politics* dataset from the course webpage.

2. Data formatting: Replace all empty cells by a relevant label and replace "Always" by "4. Always", "Quite often" by "3. Quite often", etc.

3. Is there a different age balance between men and women? (two methods)

4. Can you find newspaper sections that are more consumed by women than men? And reversely?

5. Do people who read **international politics** also read about **local politics**? Is it the same with **sport** and **cooking**? What moderator is determinant here?

6. How does **Religion** relate to reading **Satire** newspaper sections? Does this relationship vary with **Occupation**, average number of **Children** and/or with average **Age**?

Exercises – "Media and Politics" dataset

7. How does **Activity** relate to **Profession**? Can you compose a variable **4.10.Occupation** that combines **Activity** and **Profession**?

8. Test how **4.10.Occupation** relates to the **Interest in politics** and in **Economic news**. Can you interpret the result?

9. How does the number of parents respondents have in the **Public service** relate to their interest for **Culture**, **Society** and **"Going out"** newspaper sections? Can you interpret the result?
   [this question requires composing a new variable before cross-tabulating it]