A QUANTITATIVE TOUR OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

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Contents

Preface: Learning to Think Like a Social Scientist  ix
About the Contributors  xiii

PART I. MODELS AND METHODS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
Andrew Gelman
1. Introduction and Overview  3
2. What’s in a Number? Definitions of Fairness and Political Representation  11
3. The Allure and Limitations of Mathematical Modeling: Game Theory and Trench Warfare  20

PART II. HISTORY
Herbert S. Klein and Charles Stockley
4. Historical Background of Quantitative Social Science  35
5. Sources of Historical Data  52
6. Historical Perspectives on International Exchange Rates  59
7. Historical Data and Demography in Europe and the Americas  83

PART III. ECONOMICS
Richard Clarida and Marta Noguer
8. Learning from Economic Data  99
9. Econometric Forecasting and the Flow of Information  111
10. Two Studies of Interest Rates and Monetary Policy  134

PART IV. SOCIOLOGY
Seymour Spilerman and Emanuele Gerratana
11. Models and Theories in Sociology  155
12. Explanations of the Racial Disturbances of the 1960s  164
13. The Time Series of Lynchings in the American South  176
14. Attainment Processes in a Large Organization  191
Contents

PART V. POLITICAL SCIENCE
Charles Cameron
15. What Is Political Science? 207
16. The Politics of Supreme Court Nominations: The Critical Role of the Media Environment 223
17. Modeling Strategy in Congressional Hearings 242

PART VI. PSYCHOLOGY
E. Tory Higgins, Elke Weber, and Heidi Grant
18. Formulating and Testing Theories in Psychology 271
19. Some Theories in Cognitive and Social Psychology 282

PART VII. TO TREAT OR NOT TO TREAT: CAUSAL INFERENCE IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
Jeronimo Cortina
21. The Potential-Outcomes Model of Causation 303
22. Some Statistical Tools for Causal Inference with Observational Data 309
23. Migration and Solidarity 319

References 327
Index 339

Preface: Learning Social Sciences

MOTIVATION

This book has been created for social science for busy students. It is class taught by five professors of sociology, political science, and psychology. The goal is to present the distinctive ways of working in these social sciences and to help students develop some social science skills. The book is designed to help students learn how to develop some social science skills. The book is designed to help students learn how to think critically about social science and how to apply these skills in their own work.

We focus on quantitative methods and quantitative skills are developed throughout the book. Hence, students are encouraged to develop quantitative ideas in the social sciences. In contrast to books on research methods, the material focuses on how to use research methods in the social sciences. By reading the book, a student will learn how to apply research methods in working social scientists use them. The statistical and mathematical concepts are presented intentionally to help students understand the sources of quantitative data.