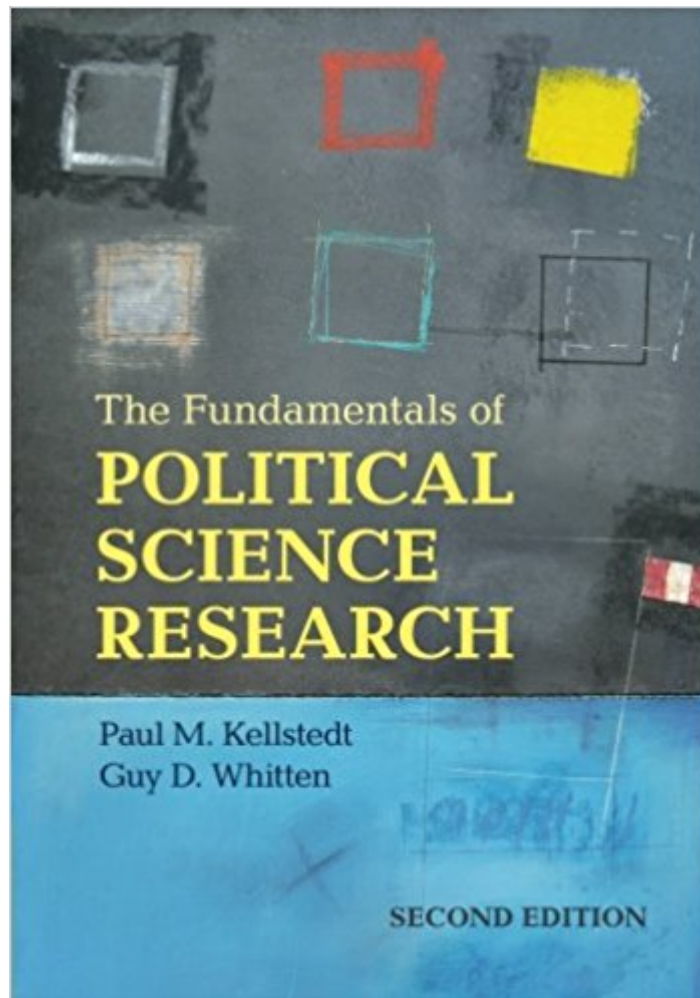




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# The Fundamentals Of Political Science Research



## Synopsis

The Fundamentals of Political Science Research provides an introduction to the scientific study of politics. It offers the basic tools necessary for readers to become both critical consumers and beginning producers of scientific research on politics. Professors Kellstedt and Whitten present an integrated approach to research design and empirical analyses in which researchers can develop and test causal theories. The authors use examples from political science research that students will find interesting and inspiring, and that will help them understand key concepts. The book makes technical material accessible to students who might otherwise be intimidated by mathematical examples. This revised second edition refines discussions from the first edition, with a new chapter on how to write an original research project. The second edition also contains an additional forty exercises and adds definitions for terms discussed in each chapter.

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Paul M. Kellstedt is an Associate Professor of Political Science at Texas A&M University. He is the

author of *The Mass Media and the Dynamics of Racial Attitudes* (Cambridge University Press, 2003), winner of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government's 2004 Goldsmith Book Prize. In addition, he has published numerous articles in a variety of leading journals. Currently, he is on the editorial boards of the journals *Political Behavior* and *Political Science Research and Methods*. Guy D. Whitten is an Associate Professor of Political Science, as well as the Director of the European Union Center, at Texas A&M University. He has published a variety of articles in leading peer-reviewed journals, including the *American Journal of Political Science*, the *British Journal of Political Science*, and *Electoral Studies*. He is on the editorial boards of the journals *Electoral Studies* and *Political Science Research and Methods*.

I've used this course in my undergrad poli sci research methods course. A solid textbook for an intro undergraduate poli sci course on research methods. Far too basic for students who've previously had any training in econometrics or quant methods. I am not as pleased with the book's discussion of counterfactual causal inference. It offers a fair amount of hand-waving at the issue, and doesn't do much to engage with the Neyman-Rubin causal model, which is both intuitive and now a workhorse in the social sciences. The discussions of theory, research design, and the basic mechanics of regression are much better, and appropriate for a beginner undergraduate audience.

Needed this book for a graduate course on quantitative methods for international affairs and it has been a wonderful resource.

ok

Exactly what it says, a good book for understanding fundamentals. I was particularly interested in the sections on causality and research design. It covered the basics but not as much depth or examples as I'd like.

Excellent text. Easy to follow extremely informative. The content drew me in, even for a subject that is less than captivating.

Great, plain language introduction! The authors take great care to introduce language and concepts. Enables the reader to tackle more detailed and complex readings by other authors.

Very satisfied!

Great product!

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