

797 Study at a Foreign Institution (12 Semester Credit Hours)

Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) in Comparative Perspective: Assessing Social and Political Change Summer 2024

warsawsummerschool.wordpress.com

I. Summary Description of the OSU Summer School in the Social Sciences (**hereafter, Warsaw Summer School**)

The Warsaw Summer School is a Study Abroad Program developed and administered by CONSIRT - *Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program* (consirt.osu.edu) through OSU Global Education. CONSIRT is a joint endeavor of The Ohio State University (the Departments of Sociology and Political Science) and the Polish Academy of Sciences (the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, and the Graduate School of Social Research).

Kazimierz M. Slomczynski, Professor Emeritus, the Department of Sociology at OSU, and Irina Tomescu-Dubrow are the Resident Directors of the Warsaw Summer School, and run CONSIRT. The Institute of Philosophy and Sociology at the Polish Academy of Sciences (IFiS – PAN) is the hosting institution of the Warsaw Summer School.

The Warsaw Summer School is a unique, interdisciplinary, program that fully integrates training in quantitative research methods for the social sciences, students' independent research, and training in comparative political, economic, and cultural aspects of CEE societies. Students will earn 12 semester credit hours for SOC 3549: Statistics in Sociology (3 credit hours), (b) its application to studying social and political change in Central and Eastern Europe, subsumed by the SOC 4998: Undergraduate Research in Sociology (6 credit hours), and (c) SOC 5503 Social Change in Central and Eastern Europe (3 credit hours). In departments other than Sociology, the Study Abroad course will be considered as equivalent to other similar courses if pre-approved by the appropriate department.

Mentoring faculty and instructors of the Warsaw Summer School are Prof. Kazimierz M. Slomczynski, Prof. Irina Tomescu-Dubrow, and Prof. Joshua K. Dubrow from IFiS-PAN and CONSIRT. Both Prof. Tomescu-Dubrow and Prof. Dubrow have received their PhD degree from OSU. In addition, students benefit from the expertise of faculty members at the host institution, in particular Prof. Michal Kotnarowski.

II. Organization of the Warsaw Summer School

As part of the Warsaw Summer School, students engage in:

(a) Individual research and class meetings with the instructors, online and at OSU Main Campus (during the May-Term). During this period, you will:

(1) In the period **May 1-3**, meet on campus with instructors (location & times to be announced).

(2) **By May 6, 2024: Read information on the Polish Panel Survey, POLPAN:**

- the journal article "The Polish Panel Survey, POLPAN" (Tomescu-Dubrow et al. 2021).
- the POLPAN 2018 English-language questionnaire
- the [Information on questionnaire versions in particular editions of the POLPAN study](#)

The items are available on our program's website:

<https://warsawsummerschool.wordpress.com/summer-school-library/polpan-data-and-research/>

(3) **By May 13, 2024: Establish**, through exchanges with instructors, **the POLPAN Topic for Research** you select for your research paper; on this topic you will conduct statistical analyses while in Poland. POLPAN is the dataset we use in the 3549 course, and which you will analyze for your research paper.

(4) **By May 31, 2024:** Prepare **Summary of 3 substantive articles/book chapters** relevant for your topic (in consultation with the instructors) (word count: 500 - 700) that should include:

- (i) the research questions
- (ii) the main substantive concepts in each paper
- (iii) the data, country, and time span of the study
- (iv) identification of the dependent variables and the independent and control variables
- (v) the main findings of each paper

(5) **By May 31, 2024:** Install R and RStudio statistical software on your computers. You might use the following tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9EBIFDGG4k> (for Windows OS) or

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5WIMX4LK8M> (for Mac OS). In case of problems with installation, contact the instructors team. You are supposed to bring your personal computer with R and RStudio installed on it.

(b) Five weeks of intensive training and research in Warsaw, Poland (**June 5 - July 10, 2024**) at IFiS-PAN; and

(c) Individual research and Internet/personal consultations with the instructors upon return to OSU.

III. Preliminary Syllabi - Warsaw Summer School, Poland component

The syllabi refer, in terms of time, location, and requirements, to the coursework that students will carry out in Poland. While the overall structure is set, specific dates/locations are subject to change.

SOC 3549 and SOC 4998

Instructors: Kazimierz M. Slomczynski, Irina Tomescu-Dubrow, Joshua K. Dubrow, Michal Kotnarowski
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:30 - 3:30 and by appointment
Email: slomczynski.1@osu.edu, dubrow.4@osu.edu, jdubrow2000@gmail.com, kotnarowski@ifispan.edu.pl
Voice messages: Warsaw: (22) 657 2755, Columbus: (614) 292-8078

Time & Location: 10:00 – 11:10, Palac Staszica, Room 161/154
11:30 – 12:45, Palac Staszica, Room 122/268
16:00 – 18:00, Palac Staszica, Room 161 /154

Wifi Internet access: 122, 271, 161, 268

Goals

Within the integrated package that the Warsaw Summer School offers, the specific learning goals of SOC 3549 and SOC 4998 are:

First, teaching students how to employ quantitative methods in the social sciences to get an in-depth understanding of social and political change in CEE. Relying on the Polish Panel Survey 1988-2013 (POLPAN), you will learn how to apply basic concepts in statistics to substantive problems of the post-communist transformation in Poland using the Statistical Package R. By the end of the stats course, you will know:

- How to use R for data analysis;
- How to describe variables (distribution shapes, central tendencies, range and dispersions of single variables);
- How to assess relationships between variables (cross-tabulation, correlation, linear and logistic regression, comparisons of summary statistics across groups);
- How to interpret research findings (samples and populations, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, understanding “statistical significance”).

Second, you will learn how to develop your own research paper on a substantive issue of your choice dealing with the post-communist transformation. As part of independent research, you will get a comprehensive understanding of research strategies suitable for comparative analyses, and will work closely with faculty of the Warsaw Summer School while designing and carrying out your own project.

Methodological Topics

The Nature of Social Research; Descriptive Statistics: Measures of Central Tendency and Variability; Probability Distributions; Samples and Populations; Statistical Inference: Testing Differences Between Means; Comparing Groups: Analysis of Variance Comparisons of Two Groups; Correlation and Linear Regression; Introduction to Multivariate Relationships; Advanced Topics.

Required Readings SOC3549:

Levin, Jack and James Alan Fox. *Elementary Statistics in Social Research. The Essentials (2nd or later Edition)* – hereafter, ESSR

Course Requirements, SOC 3549:

Class participation: Students have to be prepared to discuss the assigned readings on their due date, and to actively participate in class discussions during lecture, as well as during recitation.

Three Assignments: Assignments will be distributed throughout the course, and will include a combination of problem-solving (hand and computer calculations) and interpretation of the results. Assignments introduce students to several key variables that can be developed for the term paper. **You need to turn them in on the due date, at the beginning of the**

recitation. While studying with another student is permitted and even encouraged, you need to write the answers in your own words.

Exam: In-class examination at the end of the Study Abroad course. The exam consists of a combination of (a) multiple choice questions; (b) short answer questions; and (c) interpretation of statistical results from software output.

Course Requirements, SOC 4998:

Required readings: Select chapters from K. M. Slomczynski, ed., *Social Patterns of Being Political* (IFiS, 2000); K. M. Slomczynski, ed., *Social Structure: Changes and Linkages* (IFiS, 2002). K. M. Slomczynski and S.T. Marquart-Pyatt, eds., *Continuity and Change in Social Life* (IFiS, 2007), depending on students' research topics.

Optional readings: Gale Stokes, ed., *From Stalinism to Pluralism: A Documentary History of Eastern Europe since 1945*, Oxford University Press, 1991; M. F. Goldman, *Russia, the Eurasian Republics, and Central/Eastern Europe*. Dushkin Publishing Group, 1992-2004 (5th and later editions); Ch. G. A. Bryant and E. Mokrzycki, eds. *The New Great Transformation? Change and Continuity in East-Central Europe* (Routledge, 1994); J. R. Kluegel, D. S. Mason, and B. Wegener, eds., *Social Justice and Political Change: Public Opinion in Capitalist and Post-Communist States* (De Gruyter, 1995); K. M. Slomczynski, ed., *Social Patterns of Being Political* (IFiS, 2000); K. M. Slomczynski, ed., *Social Structure: Changes and Linkages* (IFiS, 2002). K. M. Slomczynski and S.T. Marquart-Pyatt, eds., *Continuity and Change in Social Life* (IFiS, 2007).

Class participation: You are to continuously present on the development of your research project (research question(s), research hypotheses, analyses) throughout the Warsaw Summer School.

Research Paper: The preparation of the research paper is a multi-stage process. You will start preparing for your project in May 2024, under guidance from the Warsaw Summer School instructors. During your stay in Warsaw you will fully develop your research question(s) and the corresponding research hypotheses, and perform analyses on POLPAN applying the methods learned in SOC3549. A first version of your paper (hypotheses and analyses) needs to be turned in on July 4, 2024. Instructors will comment on your work, and help you with developing the plan for the final version of the paper. You are allowed to use AI assistants in the creation of this research paper, but you must explain, in writing, what you used and how you used it.

You need to complete the final version of your term paper no later than **July 31, 2024** (last day of final examinations for 2024 Summer semester at OSU, main campus), and send it in electronically to slomczynski.1@osu.edu.

Grades

For SOC3549, grades are based: 10% on class participation, 55% on the assignments (A1 = 15%; A2 and A3 = 20% each) and 35% on the exam.

For SOC4998, grades are based on the Research paper (35% for the first version; 65% for the final version).

SOC 5503

<u>Instructors for SOC 5503:</u>	Joshua K. Dubrow and faculty from IFiS PAN
<u>Office Hours:</u>	Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:30 - 3:30 and by appointment
<u>Email:</u>	jdubrow2000@gmail.com
<u>Phone:</u>	Warsaw: +48 50 6376118
<u>Mailbox:</u>	Warsaw: Palac Staszica, Room 211
<u>Times & Locations:</u>	See Course Outline

Description of SOC 5503

Within the integrated package that the Warsaw Summer School offers, the learning goals specific to SOC 5503 are:

- Gain in-depth knowledge of the history and culture of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE);
- Enable students to develop their research projects for SOC 4998;
- Encourage students to extend their learning beyond the classroom environment.

In achieving these learning goals, SOC 5503 embraces the uniqueness of OSU Study Abroad by fully integrating students' personal experiences in Eastern Europe with the main topics of study. For example, in addition to lectures and multimedia materials on how World War Two and the Cold War impacted Polish society, you will participate in the interactive Museum of the Warsaw Uprising and visit key WWII and Communist-era places and monuments in three Polish cities (Warsaw, Krakow and Gdansk); you will see first-hand Stalinist buildings and the Socialist Realist art adorning them to get a feel of the Communist-era art and architecture; you will engage with businesses and academic and political institutions and their people to make sense of the effects that post-Communism and European Union membership have had on economics, education and politics in CEE generally, and Poland specifically.

Topics of Study

- I. Warsaw and Eastern Europe: History, Society and Culture
- II. World War Two and the Introduction of Communism in Central and Eastern Europe
- III. Life under Communism, 1945 - 1989
- IV. Transition from Communism to Post-Communism in CEE
- V. Social and Political Changes in CEE, 1989 to Present
- VI. Special Topics in CEE

Evaluation

Class participation (30%): You are to actively participate in class discussions and group exercises, expressing your informed opinions.

Final project(40%): You are required to complete a final project that is grounded in lectures, readings, videos, place visits, and your personal experiences in CEE. Guidelines for the final project will be discussed during the Summer School. You are allowed to use AI assistants in the creation of this final project, but you must explain, in writing, what you used and how you used it

Treasure Hunt in Three Polish Cities (30%): You are required to visit places, monuments and other historical treasures in three Polish cities (Warsaw, Krakow, and Gdansk) as you are able. You "collect" these places, meaning that you will record your visit by completing an official Treasure Hunt document. More details in class.

Learning Materials

Required Readings

To understand the impact of World War Two on Eastern Europe, read select chapters of Applebaum, Anne. 2012. *Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Eastern Europe*. Double Day: New York.

- Chapter 4, "Violence," pp. 88 – 115
- Chapter 5, "Ethnic Cleansing," pp. 116 – 147

While the whole book is excellent, the following chapters that discusses what Communism is, was and why it collapsed in late 20th Century are found in Brown, Archie. 2009. *The Rise and Fall of Communism*. Vintage: London.

- Chapter 1, "The Idea of Communism," pp. 9 – 26
- Chapter 6, "What Do We Mean by a Communist System?" pp. 101 – 116
- Chapter 7, "The Appeals of Communism," pp. 117 – 134
- Chapter 28, "Why Did Communism Last So Long?" pp. 574 – 586
- Chapter 29, "What Caused the Collapse of Communism?" pp. 587 – 602

Media articles about post-Communism are found in "The Post-Communist Reader," available on the course website.

Videos

Selections from CNN's Cold War Series: Comrades, 1917 – 1945; Iron Curtain, 1945 – 1947; Marshall Plan, 1947 – 1952; Reds, 1947 – 1953; After Stalin, 1953 – 1956; The Wall, 1958 – 1963; Red Spring (1960s); Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD); Star Wars, 1981 -1988; The Wall Comes Down, 1989; Kapitalism: Our Secret Recipe (Romania; 2011). *Popular Music about 1989*: Scorpion's Winds of Change.

Class Policies for SOC 3549, SOC 4998 and SOC 5503

Grading points

A 94-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 65-69	E (Failure) 59-0
A- 90-93	B 84-86	C 74-76	D 60-64	
	B- 80-83	C- 70-73		

Attendance is mandatory for lectures, seminars, and recitation sessions. A significant percentage of your grade is made up of attendance and class participation. You are responsible for all announcements made, handouts distributed, and material discussed during lectures, seminars, and recitations.

Exam Make-Ups: Except for extreme circumstances, there will be no make-up for the assignments and/or exam. If you miss the exam for a legitimate reason (documented) there will be a chance to make up the missed credit.

Academic Misconduct: The University's Code of Student Conduct defines academic misconduct as "[a]ny activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." While many people associate academic misconduct with only "cheating," academic misconduct actually includes a wider scope of student behaviors, which include (but are not limited to): violation of program or course rules and regulations; knowingly providing or receiving information during an exam (this includes providing information on exam questions for make-ups); possession and/or use of unauthorized materials during an exam; submitting plagiarized work for a course assignment; falsification, fabrication, or dishonesty in reporting laboratory (research) results; serving as or asking another student to serve as a substitute (a 'ringer') while taking an exam; alteration of grades in an effort to change earned credit or a grade; and alteration and/or unauthorized use of University forms.

Course Outline (SOC 3549, SOC 4998 & SOC 5503)

- June 5, Wednesday:** 8:00 – 15:00 – Arrival
16:30 – 18:30 Undergraduate Research; Orientation Meeting. (Meeting Place: Lobby Hera)
- June 6, Thursday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – Introduction to R: The R environment & its interface
READINGS: ESSR, Organizing the Data **Room 161**
11:30 – 12:45 – Introduction to R. Organizing the Data **Room 268**
12:45 – 13:45 – Common Lunch. IFiS **Room 154**
14:00 – 15:00 – Introduction to R: POLPAN variables
15:15 – 16:30 – Lecture: World War Two and the Introduction of Communism in CEE **Room 161**
16:30 – 17:30 – Undergraduate Research: Practical Orientation
- June 7, Friday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – Types of variables. Measures of Central Tendency, I
READINGS: ESSR, Measures of Central Tendency
11:30 – 12:45 – Types of variables. Recoding variables, II
13:30 - 14:30 - Measures of Central Tendency, II
14:45 – 17:30 – Lecture: **Warsaw Uprising Museum** (faculty-led; Meeting Place: Entry Hall, IFiS)
- June 8, Saturday:** 10:30 – approx. 16:30 – **Tour of Warsaw** (faculty-led; Meeting Place: Lobby Hera)
- June 9, Sunday:** Free time; **19:00 – Dinner.** Meeting place & venue TBA
- June 10, Monday** 10:00 – 11:20 – Types of variables. Measures of Variability, I
11:30 – 12:45 – Measures of Variability, II: application to students’ research projects
READINGS: ESSR, Measures of Variability
13:30 – 17:30 - Individual Consultations/ Undergraduate Research
- June 11, Tuesday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – Probability Distributions, I
READINGS: ESSR, Probability and the Normal Curve
11:30 – 12:45 – Probability Distributions, II: application to students’ research projects
14:00 – 15:30 – Lecture: Life under Communism, 1945 – 1989
- June 12, Wednesday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – Measures of Association; Contingency Tables, I
11:30 – 12:45 – Measures Association; Contingency Tables, II
14:00 – 15:30 – Lecture: Transition from Communism to Post-Communism in CEE
- June 13, Thursday** 10:00 – 13:00 – Individual Consultations/ Undergraduate Research
13:00 – 14:00 – Common Lunch. IFiS.
14:00 - 17:30 – Individual Consultations/ Undergraduate Research
- June 14, Friday:** 10:00 – 12:30 – Lecture in CEE
Assignment no. 1 due
Departure to Krakow – time & place TBD
- Trip to Krakow** (Faculty-led): **June 14, Friday - June 17, Monday.** CEE Lectures; Accommodation: Hotel Zaczek
- June 18, Tuesday:** 10:00 – 11:20 –Statistical Inference, Testing differences between 2 Means/Proportions, I **Room 268**
READINGS: ESSR, Samples and Populations; Testing Differences between Means
11:30 – 12:45 – Statistical Inference, Testing differences between 2 Means/Proportions, II.
14:00 – 15:30 – Lecture in CEE
- June 19, Wednesday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – ANOVA, I
READINGS: ESSR, Analysis of Variance
11:30 – 12:45 – ANOVA, II: application to students’ research projects
14:00 – 15:30 – Lecture in CEE
- June 20, Thursday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – Correlation and Regression (univariate OLS), A-I
READINGS: ESSR, Correlation
11:00 –12:45 – Correlation and Regression, A-II; application to students’ research projects
14:00 – 15:30 – Lecture in CEE
Assignment no. 2 due.

June 21, Friday – June 23, Sunday: Gdansk (Faculty-led) Instructional activities & timing TBA

Accommodation: Trip & Hostel Bed & Breakfast

- June 24, Monday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – Regression (multivariate OLS); Interaction terms, B.I.
READINGS: ESSR, Regression Analysis
11:00 – 12:45 – Lecture in CEE
14:00 – 15:45 – Regression, Interaction terms, B-II: application to students' research projects
- June 25, Tuesday** 10:00 – 12:45 – Individual Consultations/ Undergraduate Research
13:30 – 18:00 – Individual Consultations/ Undergraduate Research
- June 26, Wednesday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – Advanced Statistical Analysis, A-I (logistic regression)
11:30 – 12:45 – Advanced Statistical Analysis, A-II: application to students' research projects
13:15 – 17:00 – Undergraduate Research
- June 27, Thursday:** 10:00 – 12:45 – Undergraduate Research
14:00 – 15:30 – Lecture in CEE
- June 28, Friday :** 10:00 – 11:20 – Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences: Summary.
11:30 – 12:45 – Advanced Statistical Analysis, B-I (factors - Lecture)
14:00 – 15:30 – Lecture in CEE

June 29, Saturday – June 30, Sunday: Free Weekend

- July 1, Monday:** 10:00 – 11:20 – Advanced Statistical Analysis, B-II (Factors): application to students' research projects
11:30 – 12:45 – Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences: practical review
14:00 – 15:30 – Lecture in CEE
15:35 – 17:00 – Undergraduate Research.
Assignment no. 3 due
- July 2, Tuesday** 10:00 – 12:45 – Individual consultations & Undergraduate research
13:30 – 18:00 – Individual consultations & Undergraduate research
- July 3, Wednesday:** 10:00 – 12:45 – Individual consultations & Undergraduate research
13:30 – 18:00 – Individual consultations & Undergraduate Research
- July 4, Thursday:** 10:00 – 12:45 – Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences: Exam Review, Part I
13:00 – 14:00 – Common Lunch. IFiS
14:00 – 17:30 – Individual consultations & Undergraduate Research
Cleaned syntax for all analyses that inform your research paper due
- July 5 Friday** 10:00 – 11:20 – Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences: Exam Review, Part II
11:30 – 12:45 – Exam Review, Part III
13:30 - 17:00 - Individual consultations & Undergraduate Research

July 6, Saturday - July 7, Sunday: Free Time

- July 8, Monday** **10:00 – 11:15 – Exam**
14:00 – 18:30 – Undergraduate Research
19:00 – Dinner. Meeting place IFiS; venue TBA
- July 9, Tuesday** 10:00 – 12:45 – Undergraduate research
14:00 – 18:30 – Undergraduate Research
First Version of Final Paper due (includes all R output showing your statistical analyses and their presentation in appropriate tables to be included in the Word version of your paper)
- July 31, by 6 PM:** **Final Paper due**, via email to Slomczynski.1@osu.edu, jdubrow2000@gmail.com, dubrow.4@osu.edu