

Barnard College  
 Political Science  
 Fall 2003

[Prof. Jeffrey Friedman](#)  
 o.h. 416a Lehman Hall, Wed. 2-4  
 212-854-9496, [jfriedma@barnard.edu](mailto:jfriedma@barnard.edu)

COLLOQUIUM ON THE LOGIC OF SOCIAL-SCIENTIFIC/HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Political Science BC3100x

Wednesdays, 4:10-6 PM

Course description:

Intended to engender methodological self-awareness among students who might write senior theses requiring empirical or historical research. After undertaking close readings and discussions of great methodological theorists, participants will write research papers and subject grounded in reflection on the purposes and assumptions behind social-scientific and historical research.

Prerequisite:

Admission by application to the department; sign-up sheets are on the fourth floor of Lehman Hall. Enrollment limited to 16 Barnard, Columbia College, and General Studies students.

Requirements:

Active (Socratic) class participation at all sessions (25% of course grade). Each student will also formulate a small research topic designed to produce a tractable paper, the first draft of which (roughly 15 pages long) will be discussed by the other students and will be graded toward the end of the semester (25% of grade), and the final draft of which (roughly 25 pages long) will be due at the end of the semester (50% of grade).

Readings:

BOOKS--available from Labyrinth

E. H. Carr, What Is History?

Michel Foucault, Discipline and Punish

Mancur Olson, The Logic of Collective Action

Max Weber, The Methodology of the Social Sciences

Max Weber, The Protestant Ethic & the Spirit of Capitalism

COURSE PACK (CP)--available from Village Copier, B'way bet. 111 & 112

F. A. Hayek, "The Facts of the Social Sciences"

Philip E. Converse, "The Nature of Belief Systems in Mass Publics"

Everett Carl Ladd & Seymour Martin Lipset, The Divided Academy, sels.

Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations, selection

Max Weber, Economy and Society, excerpt

Emile Durkheim, The Division of Labor in Society, selections

Karl Marx, "The German Ideology," selections

Arlie Russell Hochschild, "The Sociology of Feeling and Emotion"

Sandra Harding, Feminism and Methodology, conclusion

Schedule:

- 9/3: Why study the logic of social-scientific and historical research?
- 9/10: Carr, What Is History?, chs. I-V
- 9/17: Hayek, "The Facts of the Social Sciences" (CP)
- 9/24: Weber, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, all (except optional pp. 128-54 and 158-79)  
 Converse, "The Nature of Belief Systems in Mass Publics" (CP)  
 Ladd and Lipset, The Divided Academy, tables 2, 3, 4, 10, 15, 18, 23, 25, 31 (CP)
- 10/1: Smith, The Wealth of Nations bk. I, ch. 2 (CP)  
 Olson, The Logic of Collective Action, Intro; ch. I (skip pp. 22-33); ch. II; ch. VI.  
 Weber, Economy and Society, vol. I, pp. 24-26 (CP)
- 10/8: Durkheim, The Division of Labor in Society, Pref. to the 1st ed.,pp. xxv-xxx; Book 1, ch. VII (pp. 149-75) (CP)
- 10/15: Marx, "The German Ideology," pp. 3-5, 148-75 (CP)  
 Weber, The Methodology of the Social Sciences, ch. II: "Objectivity in the Social Sciences" (skip secs. I-II; begin reading on p. 63)
- 10/22: Hochschild, "The Sociology of Feeling and Emotion" (CP)  
 Harding, Feminism and Methodology, ch. XII: Conclusion (CP)
- 10/29: Foucault, Discipline and Punish, pp. 3-103
- 11/5: cushion
- 11/2: discussion of paper topics
- 11/20: 1st draft of paper due\*\*\*\*\*
- 11/26: no class--Thanksgiving break
- 12/3: final draft of paper due\*\*\*\*\*