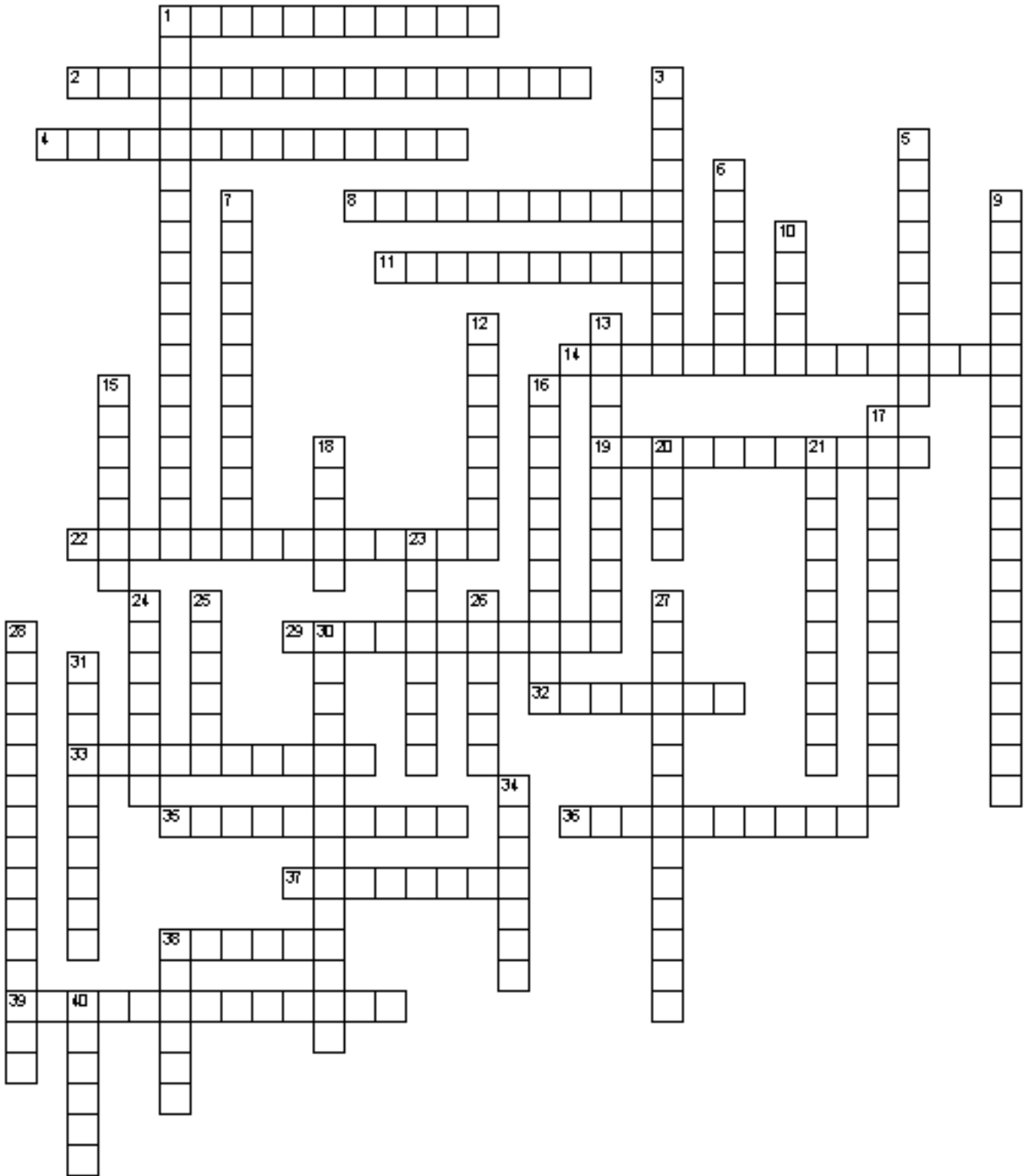


PS 140 Intro to Comparative Politics
Arguments and Research Design

Name _____



Across

1. One occurrence of the dependent variable which produces one value for each independent variable.
2. The 'outcome' variable, or the variable to be explained. (2 words)
4. Your ____ includes issues of case selection and measurement. (2 words)
8. The process of establishing values for variables across cases.
11. Scientific research is ____; other scientists can repeat an analysis because the author has provided all necessary information on methods of analysis and data sources.
14. The 'story' that links correlated variables to produce an explanation. (2 words)
19. ____ variables are causal; they do the explaining.
22. A case that should be able to be explained by a theory but instead produces results different from what the theory would expect.
29. Non-numeric variables and data, and the analysis tools used on them.
32. Categorical measurement of a variable implying no relationship between the categories; establishes 'same' or 'different' across observations and then assigns names to the groups. (male/female; blue/yellow/green; Europe/Asia/Africa)
33. The entire universe of examples of a phenomenon of interest.
35. Ideally, theories should ____ to cases beyond the cases used to test them.
36. Mill's method of ____ says that if two cases differ on the dependent variable, and have the same values on all of their independent variables except for one, then the variable on which the cases differ is the cause of the differing outcomes.
37. An observed characteristic of an observation whose values differ across observations; we can't use a constant to explain one.
38. An argument about the relationship between concepts.
39. Good researchers justify their ____ on the basis of theory; cases don't get selected for analysis just because they are convenient, or the researcher knows them well or has a lot of sources. (2 words)

Down

1. The task of finding an observable (measurable) indicator which adequately represents an unobservable concept.
3. A theory-driven, testable claim about the expected relationship between variables.
5. Mill's method of ____ says that if several cases have the same dependent variable value, yet have the same value on only one possible independent variable, then this variable is the cause of the similar outcomes.
6. Measurement level where we can rank a levels or degrees of a variable's values across cases.
7. Numeric variables and data, and the analysis tools used on them.
9. Mill's method of ____ says that if several cases have dependent variable values which vary in the same pattern as an independent variable, then changes in that independent variable's value cause changes in the dependent variable's value. (2 words)
10. We CANNOT ____ ANYTHING in social science; we can provide support for or find evidence consistent with an argument, but because the world involves a lot of factors beyond our control, error always remains.
12. The total amount of 'difference' between cases; what we try to explain.
13. When a theory is ____, we can say what we'd see if the theory were wrong; it's a characteristic of a good scientific theory.
15. When we ____ for a variable, we hold its value constant across cases because, if its value does not change across our cases, we can be sure that this variable does not contribute to producing variation in the outcomes.
16. How closely changes in one variable are matched by equal changes in the other variable.
17. Comparison across time within a unit.
18. When we can't measure a conceptual variable directly, we have to look for a reliable and measurable/observable ____ that represents the same concept.
20. Pieces of information about a case; can be qualitative or quantitative.
21. Name for variables which can only take two different values, usually 0 and 1.
23. Relationship where an increase (decrease) in the independent variable causes an increase (decrease) in the dependent variable
24. An unmeasurable, unobservable unit used in building theories.
25. Comparativists are particularly concerned about the ability of concepts to ____, or to apply or be used outside of the context in which they were developed.
26. A ____ explanation tries to explain the effect of one variable on another.
27. A mental 'experiment' of sorts where the researcher hypothesizes about the effect on the dependent variable of changing one independent variable's value while the rest are held at their original values; small children know them as 'what-if' questions.
28. These non-systematic events usually can't be used as an explanation without additional theory. (2 words)
30. At a conceptual level, what constitutes an observation or a 'case'; what makes an observation on your dependent variable? (3 words)
31. We must be sure that our cases are ____, that they are really two (or more) examples of the same phenomenon.
34. Relationship where an increase (decrease) in the independent variable causes an decrease (increase) in the dependent variable
38. The main argument of a paper.
40. A subset of the population used for analysis.

Research Design Crossword Puzzle

Agreement	Mill's method of _____ says that if several cases have the same dependent variable value, yet have the same value on only one possible independent variable, then this variable is the cause of the similar outcomes.
Difference	Mill's method of _____ says that if two cases differ on the dependent variable, and have the same values on all of their independent variables except for one, then the variable on which the cases differ is the cause of the differing outcomes.
Concomitant variation	Mill's method of _____ says that if several cases have dependent variable values which vary in the same pattern as an independent variable, then changes in that independent variable's value cause changes in the dependent variable's value.
Control	When we _____ for a variable, we hold its value constant across cases because, if its value does not change across our cases, we can be sure that this variable does not contribute to producing variation in the outcomes.
Dependent variable	The 'outcome' variable, or the variable to be explained.
Independent	_____ variables are causal; they do the explaining.
Case selection	Good researchers justify their _____ on the basis of theory; cases don't get selected for analysis just because they are convenient, or the researcher knows them well or has a lot of sources.
Research design	Your _____ includes issues of case selection and measurement.
Comparable	We must be sure that our cases are _____, that they are really two (or more) examples of the same phenomenon.
Travel	Comparativists are particularly concerned about the ability of concepts to _____, or to apply or be used outside of the context in which they were developed.
Causal	A _____ explanation tries to explain the effect of one variable on another.
Variable	An observed characteristic of an observation whose values differ across observations; we can't use a constant to explain one.
Replicable	Scientific research is _____; other scientists can repeat an analysis because the author has provided all necessary information on methods of analysis and data sources.
Concept	An unmeasurable, unobservable unit used in building theories.
Theory	An argument about the relationship between concepts.
Hypothesis	A theory-driven, testable claim about the expected relationship between variables.
Intertemporal	Comparison across time within a unit.
Falsifiable	When a theory is _____, we can say what we'd see if the theory were wrong; it's a characteristic of a good scientific theory.
Thesis	The main argument of a paper.
Qualitative	Non-numeric variables and data, and the analysis tools used on them.
Quantitative	Numeric variables and data, and the analysis tools used on them.
Variance	The total amount of 'difference' between cases; what we try to explain.
Causal mechanism	The 'story' that links correlated variables to produce an explanation.
Correlation	How closely changes in one variable are matched by equal changes in the other variable.
Unit of analysis	At a conceptual level, what constitutes an observation or a 'case';

	what makes an observation on your dependent variable?
Counterfactual	A mental ‘experiment’ of sorts where the researcher hypothesizes about the effect on the dependent variable of changing one independent variable’s value while the rest are held at their original values; small children know them as ‘what-if’ questions.
Counterexample	A case that should be able to be explained by a theory but instead produces results different from what the theory would expect.
Generalize	Ideally, theories should _____ to cases beyond the cases used to test them.
Inverse	Relationship where an increase (decrease) in the independent variable causes a decrease (increase) in the dependent variable
Positive	Relationship where an increase (decrease) in the independent variable causes an increase (decrease) in the dependent variable
Exogenous shock	These non-systematic events usually can’t be used as an explanation without additional theory.
Dichotomous	Name for variables which can only take two different values, usually 0 and 1.
Nominal	Categorical measurement of a variable implying no relationship between the categories; establishes ‘same’ or ‘different’ across observations and then assigns names to the groups. (male/female; blue/yellow/green; Europe/Asia/Africa)
Measurement	The process of establishing values for variables across cases.
Sample	A subset of the population used for analysis.
Population	The entire universe of examples of a phenomenon of interest.
Proxy	When we can’t measure a conceptual variable directly, we have to look for a reliable and measurable/observable _____ that represents the same concept.
Ordinal	Measurement level where we can rank a levels or degrees of a variable’s values across cases.
Observation	One occurrence of the dependent variable which produces one value for each independent variable.
Data	Pieces of information about a case; can be qualitative or quantitative.
Prove	We CANNOT _____ ANYTHING in social science; we can provide support for or find evidence consistent with an argument, but because the world involves a lot of factors beyond our control, error always remains.
Operationalization	The task of finding an observable (measurable) indicator which adequately represents an unobservable concept.