

#4. Group Presentation: Generalizable Causal Theory

- Apr 24 (Group A, B) / Apr 26 (Group C, D)
- 15 mins for presentation and 5-7 mins for Q&A
- Suggest (1) a causal theory of the event and (2) testable hypotheses, and (3) test hypotheses with a comparable case.

Causal Theory and hypothesis

- X causes Y.
- If X increases (or occurs), Y is more likely to increase (or occur).
- E.g. if a country is more democratic, the country's commitment on fixed exchange rate is less credible.
- Falsifiability = Testability

Comparative Case Study

- Choose a case which shows similar or contrasting to your original case.
- Analyze the case with your theory.
- Eg. Pick China in 2000s and UK between 1945 and 1971. If China's fixed rate shows less fluctuation than that of UK, the case study confirms the validity of the hypothesis empirically.

Examples of Causal Variables

- A: Why did UK choose BREXIT?

Economic downturn / people left behind the new economy

- B: Why is Germany committed to Syrian Refugee?

Demands for labor / History of crimes against humanity

- C: Why does US restrict US-China Trade in 2017?

Joint membership(?) / Increase in Trade Deficit

- D: Why did Trump call for a Travel Ban?

Issue Salience / Media coverage on Terrorism