Hands-On Learning Opportunities

ICPSR offers programs for students who want direct experience with the practice of social research.

Research Paper Competitions
www.icpsr.umich.edu/ICPSR/prize/index.jsp

Each year ICPSR encourages undergraduate and master’s students to submit course papers that use quantitative data available in ICPSR’s holdings to analyze a social science topic. Cash prizes are awarded in four competitions. In addition, winners and their mentors are recognized on the ICPSR website, and their papers are published in the ICPSR Bulletin. Submission deadline is at the end of January.

Summer Undergraduate Internships
www.icpsr.umich.edu/internship

ICPSR hosts a competitive National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates. Interns spend 10 weeks on campus learning to process data for preservation and dissemination, taking courses in the ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, and working on their own mentored research projects. Housing, food, tuition, books, and a stipend are provided. Interns prepare a conference-ready poster about their research. Apply by January 31.

Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research
www.icpsr.umich.edu/sumprog

ICPSR offers courses in social science methodology for beginning or advanced students of quantitative methods. It attracts university faculty and researchers, graduate students, and nonacademic research scientists. Individuals from ICPSR member institutions receive discounted tuition.

Membership

Our growing membership encompasses about 740 educational and research institutions around the world. Members include universities and colleges, national data archives, statistical and research agencies, government departments, and nonprofit organizations.

Individuals affiliated with member institutions have direct, free access to ICPSR’s data archive of over 7,350 studies. They also get powerful search tools, user support, and instructional resources. Researchers can use ICPSR’s services to ensure long-term data preservation as well as fulfill funder requirements for data management plans (DMP).

Membership is available to all institutions. University fees are based on Carnegie classification. Associate memberships are available for nonacademic organizations.
Instructional Materials at ICPSR Build Students’ Quantitative Skills

ICPSR provides many online resources designed to enhance undergraduates’ learning in the behavioral and social sciences.

**ICPSR Tools as Classroom Aids**
- Bibliography of Data-related Literature — excellent starting point for research papers and literature reviews
- Social Science Variables Database — lets students learn by comparing variables across datasets
- Survey Documentation and Analysis online analysis package — allows exploration of data without using licensed statistical software
- Crosstab Assignment Builder — students create contingency tables from ICPSR data utilizing a subset of variables predefined by the instructor

**Quick and Easy**

Data-Driven Learning Guides (DDLGs)
[www.icpsr.umich.edu/instructors/biblio/resources](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/instructors/biblio/resources)

DDLGs help instructors integrate data into introductory-level courses. These short, stand-alone modules can be “dropped into” substantive social science classes. Topics represent focal concepts in history, political science, psychology, research methods, sociology, and related disciplines. DDLGs, which are self-contained and include online analysis of ICPSR data, provide useful additions to lectures, supplemental assignments, study aids, or larger research projects.

**Exercise Sets**

Investigating Community and Social Capital (ICSC)
[www.icpsr.umich.edu/instructors/icsc](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/instructors/icsc)

Teaching about social capital? Lori M. Weber designed this series of activities based on Robert Putnam’s *Bowling Alone* for use in research methods and other social science courses. The assignments walk students through the research process: identifying variables from a codebook, analyzing data, and tying the results to theory. Exercises are especially well suited to political science, public administration and policy, and sociology courses.

Supplementary Empirical Teaching Units in Political Science (SETUPS) 2012
[www.icpsr.umich.edu/instructors/setups2012](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/instructors/setups2012)

This set of exercises offers students the ability to analyze data from the 2012 National Election Study (ANES). Students explore voting behaviors of population subgroups while learning about survey research. A subset of the ANES data and codebook are provided so students can work with the real data without being overwhelmed. The 10 analytic exercises are recommended for courses in American politics/government or research methods in political science. SETUPS 2004 and 2008 also are available.

Exploring Data through Research Literature (EDRL)
[www.icpsr.umich.edu/instructors/edrl](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/instructors/edrl)

“… but I don’t know what to study!” Anyone who assigns independent student research projects knows these words well. The EDRL activities use the ICPSR Bibliography of Data-related Literature to demonstrate the breadth of research stemming from a single study as well as the interconnectedness of social scientists and their work. Instructors choose a focal article, and students must find other articles using the same data, about the same topic, or by the same authors.

**Collection of External Resources**

TeachingWithData.org
[www.teachingwithdata.org](http://www.teachingwithdata.org)

TeachingWithData.org is a one-stop shop for instructors, with links to a library of Internet resources, data, and pedagogical materials. Instructors can find exercises; strategies for incorporating data; and many maps, tables, and graphs of social data. The resources are especially appropriate for undergraduate courses of all levels.

**About ICPSR**

ICPSR is the world’s largest archive of behavioral and social science research data. We advance research by acquiring, curating, preserving, and distributing original behavioral and social science data. We are a vital partner in research and instruction.

**What We Do**

As a global leader in data stewardship, we support researchers, students, instructors, and policy makers who:

- Conduct secondary research to support primary research findings or generate new findings
- Preserve and disseminate primary research data
- Study or teach statistical methods in quantitative analysis
- Write articles, papers, or theses to fulfill undergraduate or graduate requirements
- Develop funding proposals for grants or contracts that require a data management plan (DMP)

**Value-Added Data Resources**

- Bibliography of Data-related Literature with links to thousands of full-text articles and reports
- Analysis-ready data in multiple software formats including SPSS, SAS, Stata, and R
- Online data analysis using the Survey Documentation and Analysis package (SDA), which allows users to run analyses without additional software

**Data Management and Curation**

We curate data to add value, maximize access, and ensure long-term viability. Our specialists organize, describe, clean, enhance, and preserve data — much like the curatorial work done on paintings or rare books. We also can generate restricted-use versions of sensitive datasets. Additionally, researchers can fulfill funding agencies’ data management plan (DMP) requirements by archiving data with ICPSR. Our staff handles user support, freeing the original research team from that responsibility.

[www.icpsr.umich.edu](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu)