



McGill

Faculty of
Medicine

Department of
Family Medicine

Faculté de
médecine

Département de
médecine familiale

AN INSPIRING ONE-DAY WORKSHOP!

December 12, 2013 from 9:30-16:30

INTRODUCTION TO CONFIGURATIONAL COMPARATIVE METHODS (CCM) AND QUALITATIVE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS (QCA)

AUDIENCE

Healthcare professionals, librarians, managers, graduate students, post-doctoral fellow, and researchers, involved in quantitative or qualitative or mixed methods research projects.

INTRODUCTION

Configurational Comparative Methods (CCM) and Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) refer to both a research approach and a set of techniques. As a research approach, they are geared towards systematic cross-case comparison, a form of synthesis between 'case-oriented' and 'variable-oriented' approaches, the formalization of statements of necessity and sufficiency, an emphasis on complex causality, the quest for some level of parsimony, and the possibility to formulate 'modest generalizations'. As a set of techniques, they comprise crisp-set QCA (csQCA), mvQCA (multi-value QCA) and fsQCA (fuzzy-set QCA). They can be used for different purposes, from typology-building to theory testing and theory elaboration. They can be used on a stand-alone basis, or combined with qualitative or quantitative or mixed methods.

LOCATION

Department of Family Medicine, McGill University, 5858 Côte-des-Neiges, 3rd Floor, Suite 300, Montreal, QC, Canada, H3S 1Z1.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After attending this workshop, participants will be able to build and process configurations with Boolean and set-theoretic logic for analysing cases.

- Participants using mainly quantitative methods (statistics) will be able to manage small datasets in an alternative manner.
- Participants using mainly qualitative methods will be able to propose meaningful 'condition-outcome' configurations.

The overall goal of the workshop is to provide an introduction to the approach.

The specific objectives are to demonstrate and to discuss 'hands-on' practical applications and the potential of CCM and QCA (a) using real-life data from existing applications, starting from basic applications and protocols to more refined ones, and (b) using specialized software programs such as FS/QCA and the 'QCA' R packages.

FACULTY

Benoît Rihoux is political science Professor at the University of Louvain (UCL), Belgium. He co-ordinates the COMPASSS international network (<http://www.compass.org>) on CCM and QCA, and is convener of international initiatives such as the annual ECPR Methods School. He has published extensively on their applications in diverse fields and interdisciplinary projects. His substantive research interests include political parties, new social movements, organizational studies, political change, and policy processes.

Contact: benoit.rihoux@uclouvain.be

Damien Bol is a political science post-doctoral researcher, and holds a fellowship from the Canada Research Chair in Electoral Studies, University of Montreal. He works on the project *Making Electoral Democracy Work* (<http://electoraldemocracy.com/>).

Damien's doctoral research studied party strategies for electoral reform in established democracies. His current research focuses on political institutions, parties and elections around the world. He contributes to the development of QCA and fsQCA.

Contact: damien.bol@umontreal.ca

WORKSHOP CONTENT

Morning session (9:30-12:30 with 30' break):

- QCA as an approach
- Comparative research design issues of QCA
- Review of different QCA applications
- Technical foundations of QCA
- From crisp to fuzzy sets and multi-value QCA
- Replication of a standard QCA from A to Z

Afternoon session (13:30-16:30 with 30' break):

- Which software package
- Advanced features and ongoing innovations
- Mixing QCA with other methods
- Review of 'good practices' & tricks of the trade
- Concluding discussion: strengths and limitations

READINGS

RECOMMENDED

- Benoît Rihoux and Charles C. Ragin (eds). *Configurational Comparative Methods: Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) and Related Techniques*. Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009.
- Benoît Rihoux, Priscilla Álamos-Concha, Damien Bol, Axel Marx, and Ilona Rezsöhazy. From Niche to Mainstream Method? A Comprehensive Mapping of QCA Applications in Journal Articles from 1984 to 2011. *Political Research Quarterly* 2013, 66(1):175-84.

More readings and resources are available through the COMPASSS international website: <http://www.compass.org>

SUGGESTED

- Benoît Rihoux. Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) 2013: Reframing the Comparative Method's Seminal Statements. *Swiss Political Science Review* 2013, 19(2):233-45.
- Benoît Rihoux and Bojana Lobe. The Case for Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA): Adding Leverage for Thick Cross-Case Comparison. In *The Sage Handbook of Case-Based Methods*, edited by David Byrne and Charles Ragin (pp. 222-43). London: Sage, 2009.
- Carsten Q. Schneider and Claudius Wagemann. *Set-Theoretic Methods for the Social Sciences: A Guide to Qualitative Comparative Analysis*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

PRE-WORKSHOP REQUIREMENT

Prior to the workshop, participants **MUST** have the following three software programs installed in their laptop, and check that these software work. Participants **MUST** bring their laptop to the workshop. The freeware *FS/QCA*, the *QCA R* package, and *TOSMANA* will be used to conduct analyses. All three can be accessed from <http://www.compass.org/software.htm>. Data files will be accessible before the workshop.

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration fee: \$100 (lunch included).

****The cheque must be addressed to McGill University**

Deadline: December 7th, 2013.

Registration will be taken on a first come first served basis when the cheque is received.

The number of participants is limited to 20.

Mail the registration form and cheque to:

Julia Diouf
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5858 Côte-des-Neiges, 3rd Floor, Suite 300
Montreal, QC, Canada, H3S 1Z1
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WORKSHOP

INTRODUCTION TO CONFIGURATIONAL COMPARATIVE METHODS (CCM) AND QUALITATIVE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS (QCA)

Benoît Rihoux PhD and Damien Bol PhD

Thursday December 12, 2013, 9:30-16:30

Department of Family Medicine, McGill University

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Montreal, QC, Canada, H3S 1Z1

PERSONAL DATA

LAST NAME:

FIRST NAME:

DATE OF BIRTH:

POSITION:

AFFILIATION:

ADDRESS

N° STREET POSTAL CODE

CITY PROVINCE/STATE COUNTRY

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL ADDRESS: