**HIST 720-01 Historical Applications of Quantitative Methods**



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This course gives students a working knowledge of quantitative methods and the ways in which those methods can be applied to historical analysis. Through a series of practical exercises and case studies students will use numeric data (e.g. tax or census records, insurance records, business/financial records) and will convert other types of evidence (e.g. employment records, university admission and graduation records) to numeric form and apply the data to historical analyses and interpretations. Data used will be drawn from a variety of public and private sources. A wide variety of datasets will be used (e.g. the National Archives’ Archives Library Information Center, the New York Times Historical Archive, the American Family Immigration Center/Ellis Island Foundation archives, and Dept of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis Database).

Students will use the STATA software application for this class. It should be noted that this class is not intended to give students an in-depth knowledge of statistical analysis or data modeling but will provide them with a solid grounding that will enable them to use quantitative data and analysis in historical research, and to become a critical consumer of quantitative historical scholarship.

Summary of Course Organization

* Short Review of Quantitative History
* Understanding and Organizing Quantitative Data
* Data Sources and Reliability
* Linking Records
* Sampling
* Organizing Data into Categories
* Locating Patterns in Data and Connecting Data Patterns
* Using Historical Data Patterns