

Interview Research in Political Science

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From Mosley Layna EDT : Interview Research in Political Science before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Interview Research in Political Science:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Just ask...By Dr. Wilson TrivioAs a political scientist I wish I would had read this book in my graduate school days. It blends both the scholarly and practical approach in getting valuable research information. The book is broken down into three divisions that are essential to any one partaking on the challenge of field research. They are from the design, the challenge of interview research, and putting it all

together. Policy studies is a dynamic field where book study does not capture the realities of what happens when the said policy is applied. The methods described in this book will give insight to both the budding and experienced interviewer. The writing is simple and straight forward and easy to follow, no long complex condensed academic ease. This work is a good addition to the body of work addressing field research. The collected writers are leaders in their field and the work is a valuable resource.

Interviews are a frequent and important part of empirical research in political science, but graduate programs rarely offer discipline-specific training in selecting interviewees, conducting interviews, and using the data thus collected. *Interview Research in Political Science* addresses this vital need, offering hard-won advice for both graduate students and faculty members. The contributors to this book have worked in a variety of field locations and settings and have interviewed a wide array of informants, from government officials to members of rebel movements and victims of wartime violence, from lobbyists and corporate executives to workers and trade unionists. The authors encourage scholars from all subfields of political science to use interviews in their research, and they provide a set of lessons and tools for doing so. The book addresses how to construct a sample of interviewees; how to collect and report interview data; and how to address ethical considerations and the Institutional Review Board process. Other chapters discuss how to link interview-based evidence with causal claims; how to use proxy interviews or an interpreter to improve access; and how to structure interview questions. A useful appendix contains examples of consent documents, semistructured interview prompts, and interview protocols. Contributors: Frank R. Baumgartner, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Matthew N. Beckmann, University of California, Irvine; Jeffrey M. Berry, Tufts University; Erik Bleich, Middlebury College; Sarah M. Brooks, The Ohio State University; Melani Cammett, Brown University; Lee Ann Fujii, University of Toronto; Mary Gallagher, University of Michigan; Richard L. Hall, University of Michigan; Marie Hojnacki, Pennsylvania State University; David C. Kimball, University of Missouri, St. Louis; Beth L. Leech, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey; Julia F. Lynch, University of Pennsylvania; Cathie Jo Martin, Boston University; Lauren Maclean, Indiana University; Layna Mosley, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Robert Pekkanen, University of Washington; William Reno, Northwestern University; Reuel R. Rogers, Northwestern University

"Mosley (Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), author of books on labor rights and on global capital, offers an edited volume on methodological aspects of interviews in political science. The content of this volume, in terms of the balance between positivist and interpretative-oriented approaches, mirrors the current state of the discipline, centered at the positivist end of the spectrum. The contributors address challenges associated with interview evidence: gaining access to interview subjects, sampling the right set of respondents, convincing others of the reliability and validity of interview data, and ensuring that research is conducted ethically. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate and research collections." *Choice* (January 2014) "Apart from its value for filling a gap in the literature, this book has one additional merit: it reflects the epistemological diversity within the discipline, facilitating a dialogue between the positivist and interpretivist scholars. Overall, the book is a valuable source for understanding the key challenges behind interview-based research- such as ethics, sampling, validity, and reliability- and also contains practical advice for coping with interviews in the different stages of research." *Israel Solorio Sandoval, Political Studies* (August 2016) "Interview Research in Political Science is a timely and immensely valuable resource. Political scientists use interviews more than any other field research technique, yet interviews are a method that is rarely taught, and there's great demand for ideas and advice. The chapters contain imaginative, thoughtful, and savvy examples of ways in which experienced scholars use interviews, including how they prepare, how they conduct the interview, and how they incorporate what they learn into their research programs, often in combination with other methods. Within a general theme of seeking rigor in interview research, the book provides a range of perspectives and approaches, and usefully addresses topics including sampling strategies and ethical considerations. Although it is targeted to political science, colleagues in many other disciplines will also find much of benefit here." *Benjamin Read, University of California, Santa Cruz, author of Roots of the State: Neighborhood Organization and Social Networks in Beijing and Taipei* About the Author Layna Mosley is Professor of Political Science at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is the author of *Global Capital and National Governments* and *Labor Rights and Multinational Production*.