

**EPIC**  
**Recommended Methodology Readings**  
**Qualitative Methods**

**1. Case studies**

- Yin, Robert K. *Case Study Research. Design and Methods*. (Newbury Park: Sage Publications. Revised Edition, 1989).

Chapter One (pp.13-26): required. Chapter Two (pp.27-60): optional.

Ragin, Charles (ed.). *Issues and Alternatives in Comparative Social Research*. (Leiden: E.J. Brill). Following two chapters:

Amenta, Edwin: "Making the Most of a Case Study: Theories of the Welfare State and the American Experience." (pp.172-194).

Bradshaw, York, and Michael Wallace: "Informing Generality and Explaining Uniqueness: The Place of Case Studies in Comparative Research." (pp.154-171).

**2. Comparative case studies**

Scharpf, Fritz, „Institutions in Comparative Policy Research“ . MPIfG Working Paper 00/3. Köln: Max-Planck-Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung, 2000

[http://www.mpi-fg-koeln.mpg.de/publikation/working\\_papers/wp00-3/index.html](http://www.mpi-fg-koeln.mpg.de/publikation/working_papers/wp00-3/index.html)

(a) *The comparative method*

- Skocpol, Theda. 1984. "Emerging Agendas and Recurrent Strategies in Historical Sociology" (in) Skocpol, T. (ed.) *Vision and Method in Historical Sociology*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

(b) *Qualitative comparative analysis*

- Ragin, Charles C. 1991. "Introduction: The Problem of Balancing Discourse On Cases and Variables In Comparative Social Science." *International Journal of Comparative Sociology* XXXII:1-8.

(c) *Contextualised comparisons*

Locke, R. M. and K. Thelen (1995). "Apples and Oranges Revisited: Contextualized Comparison and the Study of Comparative Labor Politics." *Politics and Society* 23(3): 337-368.

**3. Narratives as methodology I**

(a) *Historical narratives*

Sabel, C. F. and J. Zeitlin (1997). Stories, strategies, structures: Rethinking historical alternatives to mass production. (in) C. F. Sabel and J. Zeitlin eds. *Worlds of Possibility: Flexibility and Mass Production in Western Industrialization*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)

(b) *Analytical narratives*

- Bates, R., „Introduction“ (in) Bates, R. H., A. Greif, et al. (1998). *Analytical narratives*. (Princeton, Princeton University Press)

**5. Flagging research problems**

(a) *framing research* (KKV 12-32)

(b) *selection bias* (KKV 128 – 138)

(c) *theory construction* (KKV 99-114)

(d) *extending observations within single cases* (KKV 208-230)

(e) *how many cases for analytical leverage?* (KKV 139-149)

(f) *From typology to theory: 2 X 2 matrix*

(KKV = King, G. et al. (1994). *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton, Princeton University Press)