# Research Methodology of Political Science

PS 371(001)

**Instructor:** Shannon McGovern (Public Administration Doctoral **Student**)

**Email:** skmcgove@ncsu.edu

**Class Location:** Zoom Link (also posted on Moodle)

**Office and Appointment Hours:** Virtual Office Hours are Mondays from 2-4 pm.

If the time does not work for students, Zoom-based meetings can be scheduled upon request. Zoom-based software tutorial help sessions will also be offered frequently during the first third of the course to support work on class assignments.

**Email Etiquette:** My goal is to respond to all emails within 24 hours. When emailing me, please always include in the subject line: **PS371-Topic** (with the "topic" being whatever you are emailing me about).

## Course Overview

This 3-credit hour course is designed to provide an in-depth introduction to the scientific method of investigation in political science. A solid understanding of the research process and accompanying methods are essential tools for political scientists to examine complicated political issues and phenomena (e.g. What are the factors predicting election results? What is the impact of free trade on domestic manufacturers? How cost-effective are government provided healthcare services?). Students will become familiar with the basic toolkit of social science methodology, the research process, practice data analysis with the help of professional software, and design and present a research project. The skills you build this semester are essential for evaluating scientific claims you encounter and for advancing your own grounded arguments. These skills will help students become better consumers of information, as well as better practitioners.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to:

- Communicate political science research design and process
- Become familiar with and able to identify different types of data
- Understand and apply common social science research methodologies
- Establish a basic knowledge of managing, visualizing, and analyzing data
- Summarize common data collection and sampling techniques
- Design, present, and evaluate a research project to demonstrate an understanding of how to: find scholarly sources and use the sources to develop an argument; develop a research question; develop testable hypotheses

# Course Requirement and Policies

Pre-requisite Requirements: ST 311 OR ST 301 and ST 302

## Required Textbook:

Political Science Research Methods, 9th edition (2019)

Janet Buttolph Johnson, H. T. Reynolds & Jason D. Mycoff

ISBN-13: 978-1544331577

ISBN-10: 1544331436

**Additional Readings:** Additional readings will be posted on the course Moodle site.

You are expected to read all of the required readings listed in the syllabus BEFORE class each week. Be sure to keep up with the readings! The materials build on each other every week and it would be very easy to fall behind.

**Supplemental Textbook:**

**This is not a required textbook**, but if you are hoping to publish research in the future, I strongly recommend this book:

The Craft of Research, 4th edition (2016)

Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, Joseph Bizup, & William T. Fitzherald

ISBN-13: 978-0226239736

ISBN-10: 022623973X

## Required Software:

### 1. R and RStudio Desktop – FREE

As a 300-level research methods class, hands-on data analytical exercise plays a core part in this course. Specifically, two software packages, R and RStudio, will be utilized.

You can install them on your own devices or access through the Virtual Computing Lab (VCL (opens in new window) OR directly from R's website (opens in new window).

**In order to use RStudio, you will have to install R first.**

They are also available on the machines in university labs. R is a language and computing environment for statistical analysis and graphics that is free and open source for multiple purposes. It will be needed for practices and homework assignments. The Comprehensive R

Archive Network (CRAN) is the to-go spot for all things R-related (opens in new window). Tutorials on R and RStudio will be posted on Moodle later in the semester.

In situations where you need technical assistance for a task related to this course, the NC State Help Desk in the Office of Information Technology (OIT) can assist you. To contact them, you can email help@ncsu.edu or call 919-515-HELP (4357). Additionally, if it is between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, or between 12 and 5 p.m. on Saturday, the OIT Walk-in Center can be accessed in person at 2901 Thurman Drive. The office is in room 101 in the West Dunn Building (Central Campus).

## Attendance:

The material in this course is cumulative, requiring regular engagement for students to be successful. In order to earn full credit for participation, students must participate in discussion forums and complete homework, assignments, and quizzes on a regular and timely basis. Consistent failure to participate in class will result in failure of the course.

Because this class is mixed synchronous and asynchronous, it is STRONGLY recommended that you attend all synchronous classes. You are allowed two excused absences from the synchronous classes without penalty. **Exception: there are certain days that attendance is mandatory for grading purposes (i.e. final presentation days). If you anticipate an absence on one of those days, communicate that with me IMMEDIATELY.*

For complete university attendance and excused absence policies, please see http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-03 (opens in new window).

## Late or Missed Work Policy:

Late assignments will be penalized by a 5-point grade reduction for each day that it is late. Exceptions will be considered in cases of *documented* severe illness or family emergency. If you need an exception, please attempt to make arrangements *before* the assigned due date. Late assignments will not be accepted one week after the deadline. There will be a 20-point penalty for failure to take an exam at the required time. If you miss an exam, the rescheduling must take place at the convenience of the instructor.

## Questions:

In any course, it is normal to have questions about course materials. Please do not hesitate to post any questions to the Q&A FORUM on the course Moodle page. This is an open forum, and you are encouraged to give answers to help each other. ***For each clear and comprehensive answer that you give to help another student, you can earn ONE extra credit point to be added to your final project grade (max 5 points).***

## Academic Honesty:

Students are required to comply with the university policy on academic integrity found in the Code of Student Conduct (opens in new window). Click HERE (opens in new window) for a detailed explanation of academic honesty.

The work that you submit MUST BE YOUR OWN. **Do not collaborate with students on homework or quizzes unless otherwise instructed**. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated in any form and will result in an **automatic 'F'** for the assignment and potentially for the course depending on the degree of the infraction. To avoid complications, always acknowledge the sources of borrowed ideas and data including detailed references (in the correct APA format). Because this might be a fairly new skill for some students, do not hesitate to consult with me if you are not sure how to correctly incorporate someone else's ideas in your work.

Here are two useful resources to help you better understand the correct APA format for citations:

1. Purdue University's Writing Lab (opens in new window)
2. The American Psychological Association's (APA) Website (opens in new window)

## Statement on Students with Disabilities:

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with the Disability Resource Office at Holmes Hall, Suite 304, Campus Box 7509, 919-515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (REG02.20.01, opens in new window), or contact the Disability Services Office at 919-515-7653 (opens in new window).

## Non-Discrimination Policy:

NCSU provides equality of opportunity in education and employment for all students and employees. Any person who feels that he or she has been the subject of prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Office for Equal Opportunity (OEO) at 919-515-3148. NC State's policies and regulations covering discrimination, harassment, and retaliation may be accessed at http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-04-25-05 or http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op/ (open in new windows).

## NC State University Polices, Regulations, and Rules (PRR):

Students are responsible for reviewing the PRRs which pertain to their course rights and responsibilities. These all open in a new window and include:

1. Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination Policy Statement
2. Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity
3. Student Code of Conduct
4. Grades and Grade Point Average

**For additional information on NCSU's handling of COVID-19 or to locate resources, please see the attached COVID-19 Syllabus Addendum attached to the bottom of this syllabi.**

**Disclaimer:** The instructor reserves the right to adjust the course schedule and assignments as needed.

## PS 371 Assignments

As detailed in the course outline (see below), PS 371 will include weekly readings, several individual assignments, and group assignments. The assignments come in the form of homework, quizzes, tests, and a research project with an accompanying presentation. All assignments will be submitted via the course Moodle page. Please see the late and missed work policy for any related questions.

1. *Homework – Each of five homework assignments are 2% of final grade (10% total)*
   There will be five homework assignments throughout the semester. They can be found in the course Moodle page and are exercises using R. Please submit your assignments through Moodle. The homework assignments are intended to make sure you are able to apply the course materials and are acquainted with data analytical techniques in R. Please finish all assignments independently, as they are intended to provide you with first-hand experience with data analysis.

2. *Quizzes – Each of four quizzes are 2.5% of final grade (10% total)*
   Your familiarity with the readings will be tested with 4 online quizzes. **Carefully note the due date for each quiz – late submissions will not be accepted after the deadline for these quizzes**, regardless of the reason.

3. *Tests – Each of two tests are worth 15% of final grade (30% total)*
   Your ability to develop an appropriate research design, discuss relevant concepts, analyze data, and interpret the results will be tested twice in this course. The second test is not cumulative and will only cover the material since the first mid-term. Students are responsible for all subject matter covered during the lectures and in the assigned readings. Additional details on the format and content of the tests will be provided in class.

4. *Research Project - 25% of final grade (12% for project related tasks + 13% for final paper)*

   A major objective for this course is to teach you how to apply the tools of social science research to a question of interest. Accordingly, you are expected to develop a research project that explores a non-trivial political phenomenon by means of quantitative methodology and hypothesis testing. The paper should be approximately 10-12 pages long, double spaced (not counting the title page or citation pages). Further instructions will be provided in class.

   Students should start considering research topics of interest immediately! Keep in mind that research design and finding appropriate scholarly literature can be quite time consuming. Several project-related graded tasks will guide you through the earlier research steps (4 tasks * 3% each = 12% of total project grade). Due dates are as follows:

   1. Paper topic due before class **[insert due date]**
   2. Annotated bibliography #1 due before class **[insert due date]**
   3. Selection of variables and dataset due before class **[insert due date]**
   4. Annotated bibliography #2 due before class **[insert due date]**

   Your final research proposal is due on **[insert due date].** See late or missed work policy for any relevant questions.

   Your final proposal must (1) clearly state a non-trivial causal research question, summarize related literature and elaborate project significance (why should anyone care about your topic?); (2) specify an explanatory model; (3) explain the relevant concepts and suggest operational definitions for the critical variables; (4) propose a series of research hypotheses you intend to test; (5) describe the dataset that you will be using; (6) provide a detailed list of works cited. The proposal MUST be thoroughly supported by in-text citations (resources can be found under the Academic Honesty policy). More information will be provided in class.

   In other words, **you do not have to actually conduct the data analysis** for your final project, but you must convey your plan for doing so. Examples of final projects will be on Moodle. However, should you decide to do a full paper, you can have your data analysis and results included, and will be awarded with up to an additional 20 points on your final project. Examples of full papers will be available on Moodle as well.

   **Project Resources:**

   - University Tutorial Center (opens in new window)
   - Purdue OWL (opens in new window)
   - Developing Research Proposals (SAGE) (opens in new window)

5. *Research Project Presentation - 10% of final grade*
   At the end of the semester, you will be doing a 5-minute presentation of your final project for the class. Each student will complete two peer reviews to practice this skill and to better understand the metrics by which I will be grading your presentation. (Copies of the peer review sheets will be posted on Moodle). The presentation days are **April 27 and 29**. You can sign up for your presentation time and date on Moodle later in the semester. Regardless of which of the two presentation days you will be giving your presentation, all students are required to submit their presentation materials in **Power Point format** by **[insert due date] (the day BEFORE the first in-class presentation day)**.

## Grading

Assignment and grading summary:

- Homework 10% (5 x 2% each)
- Quizzes 10% (4 x 2.5% each)
- Test #1 15%
- Test #2 15%
- Project tasks 12%
- Research paper 13%
- Research presentation 10%
- Participation 15%

Course grades will be assigned on the usual NCSU +/- system with:
A+: ≥97-100%; A: ≥93-<97; A-: ≥90-<93
B+: ≥87-<90%; B: ≥83-<87; B-: ≥80-<83
C+: ≥77- <80%; C: ≥73-<77; C-: ≥70-<73
D+: ≥67-<70%; D: ≥63-<67; D-: ≥60-<63 F: <60%

## Course Evaluations

The online class evaluation system, *ClassEval*, will be available during the last two weeks of the semester for you to evaluate your courses. *ClassEval* will send multiple messages directing you to a website where you may log in using your Unity ID to complete your evaluations. All evaluations are confidential: (1) faculty will not know how any one student responded to any question and (2) confidential ratings will not be available to faculty until after final grades have been submitted. (See Class Eval "Information for Students" [opens in new window]).

# Course Schedule

| Week | Topic & Readings Assigned | Due | Assigned |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Week 1**<br>Class 1 | Introduction: Overview of the course and assignments. A guide to success in PS 371. What is scientific about political *science*?<br><br>READ:<br>□ Course syllabus<br>□ Research paper guidelines | | □ **Project Task 1:** Start thinking about project topic (ungraded) |
| **Week 1**<br>Class 2 | The Empirical Approach to Political Science<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 1 (skim)<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 2 | | |
| **Week 2**<br>Class 1 | Beginning the Research Process: Research Topics and Questions<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 3<br>□ Sage Project Planner Stage 2 "Defining a Topic" & 4 "Developing a RQ" | | |
| **Week 2**<br>Class 2 | Beginning the Research Process: Reviewing the Literature<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 3 | | |
| **Week 3**<br>Class 1 | Building Blocks of Social Scientific Research: Hypotheses, Concepts, & Variables<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 4<br>□ Supplemental reading on Moodle: Formulating and Extracting Hypotheses | | □ **Project Task 1:** Project topic, select and report 2-3 dependent variables that you could investigate<br>□ **QUIZ 1** |

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| **Week 3**<br>Class 2 | Building Blocks of Social Scientific Research: Measurement<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 4<br>□ Sage Project Planner Stage 5 "Research Design"<br><br>**QUIZ 1** DUE BEFORE CLASS | □ **Project Task 1:** Project topic due on Moodle. Select and report 2-3 dependent variables that you could investigate | |
| **Week 4**<br>Class 1 | **NO CLASS – WELLNESS DAY** | | |
| **Week 4**<br>Class 2 | Sampling<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 5 | | □ **Project Task 2:** Annotated bibliography with 5 <u>peer-reviewed</u> scholarly articles exploring your tentative dependent variable |
| **Week 5**<br>Class 1 | Research Design: Causal Inferences<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 6 | □ **Project Task 2:** Annotated bibliography with 5 <u>peer-reviewed</u> scholarly articles exploring your tentative dependent variable | □ **QUIZ 2** |
| **Week 5**<br>Class 2 | Quantitative Research Designs<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 9<br><br>**QUIZ 2** DUE BEFORE CLASS | | |
| **Week 6**<br>Class 1 | Quantitative Research Methods<br><br>READ:<br>□ Johnson et al. Ch 10 | | |

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| **Week 6**<br>Class 2<br>**TEST** | ***MIDTERM 1***<br>The exam will be made available on Moodle during our scheduled class time. It must be completed during our class time.<br>Exam will cover all topics so far this semester. | | |
| **Week 7**<br>Class 1 | Beginning R | | |
| **Week 7**<br>Class 2 | Making Sense of Data, Part I<br><br>READ:<br>☐ Johnson et al. Ch 11<br>☐ Sage Project Planning Stage 4 "Research Design" | | ☐ R Homework 1<br>☐ **QUIZ 3** |
| **Week 8**<br>Class 1 | Making Sense of Data, Part II<br><br>READ:<br>☐ Johnson et al. Ch 11<br><br>**QUIZ 3** DUE BEFORE CLASS | ☐ R Homework 1 | ☐ **Project Task 3:** Selection of variables + dataset. List at least 5 variables that are likely to affect the DV. Pick one of these variables and articulate a research hypothesis |
| **Week 8**<br>Class 2 | Relationships Between Continuous Variables: Making Comparisons<br><br>READ:<br>☐ Johnson et al. Ch 12 | ☐ **Project Task 3:** Selection of variables + datasets due on Moodle. List at least 5 variables that are likely to affect the DV. Pick one of these variables and articulate a research hypothesis | |
| **Week 9**<br>Class 1 | Statistical Inference; T-Tests<br><br>READ:<br>☐ Johnson et al. Ch 12 | | ☐ R Homework 2 |

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| **Week 9**<br>Class 2 | Relationships Between Categorical Variables; Making Comparisons<br><br>READ:<br>☐ Johnson et al. Ch 13 | ☐ R Homework 2 | |
| **Week 10**<br>Class 1 | Investigating Relationships: Chi-square Test & Measures of Association<br><br>READ:<br>☐ Johnson et al. Ch 13 | | ☐ Sign up for final presentation date AND peer review dates on Moodle<br>☐ R Homework 3 |
| **Week 10**<br>Class 2 | Regression, Part I<br><br>READ:<br>☐ Johnson et al. Ch 14 | ☐ Sign up for final presentation date AND peer review dates on Moodle<br>☐ R Homework 3 | ☐ R Homework 4<br>☐ **QUIZ 4** |
| **Week 11**<br>Class 1 | Regression, Part II<br><br>READ:<br>☐ Johnson et al. Ch 14<br><br>**QUIZ 4** DUE BEFORE CLASS | ☐ R Homework 4 | ☐ **Project Task 4:** Annotated bibliography #2 with an ADDITIONAL 8 peer-reviewed scholarly articles related to your study |
| **Week 11**<br>Class 2 | Data Visualization Workshop<br><br>READ:<br>☐ No book chapter, supplemental readings on Moodle<br>☐ Sage Project Planning Stage 10 "Writing Up" | ☐ **Project Task 4:** Annotated bibliography #2 with an ADDITIONAL 8 peer-reviewed scholarly articles related to your study | ☐ R Homework 5 |
| **Week 12**<br>Class 1 | **Optional** Midterm Review + Writing Help Day | ☐ R Homework 5 | **Midterm 2 Next Week** |
| **Week 12**<br>Class 2 | ***Midterm 2***<br>The exam will be made available on Moodle during our scheduled class time. It must be completed during our class time.<br>Exam will cover all topics AFTER EXAM 1 (non-cumulative). | | Each group must schedule a time with me next week to discuss your project |

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| **Week 13**<br>Class 1 | ***Group Meeting Day with Instructor***<br>Each group will select a time slot to meet with me during this class period to discuss any questions you have about your final paper/project. <u>This is not optional</u>; I want to check in with every group even if you do not need much time. | | |
| **Week 13**<br>Class 2 | ***NO CLASS – WELLNESS DAY** | | |
| **Week 14**<br>Class 1 | ***Writing Day – No Class***<br>There is no class scheduled, but I'd be happy to meet with groups again to discuss any follow up questions. Please email me in advance to schedule a time during this class period. | | |
| **Week 14**<br>Class 2 | ***Writing Day – No Class*** | | Final presentation materials **DUE [insert date] (BEFORE class)** |
| **Week 15**<br>Class 1 | Final Presentations – Day 1 | Final presentation materials **DUE 5 pm [insert date] (BEFORE class)** | Peer Reviews (will be done in class) |
| **Week 15**<br>Class 2 | Final Presentations – Day 2 | | Peer Reviews (will be done in class) |
| **Final Exam [DATE]** | **Final Project Paper Due**<br>□ Upload to Moodle before **5 pm** | | |

# COVID-19 Syllabus Addendum

**COVID-19 Resources**:

Do your part to protect yourself and the pack. Please visit the Protect the Pack site (opens in new window) to learn about protocols, guidelines and far-ranging information gather by the university to help promote a safe and supportive environment for all of us. You can also visit the NC COVID-19 Information Hub (opens in new window) to learn about ways and information to help protect our community.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, public health measures have been implemented across campus. Students should stay current with these practices and expectations through the Protect the Pack website (https://www.ncsu.edu/coronavirus/). The sections below provide expectations and conduct related to COVID-19 issues.

**Health and Participation in Class**

We are most concerned about your health and the health of your classmates and instructors/TAs.

- If you test positive for COVID-19, or are told by a healthcare provider that you are presumed positive for the virus, please do not attend any hybrid or F2F classes and work with your instructor on any adjustments necessary; also follow other university guidelines, including self reporting (Coronavirus Self Reporting): Self-reporting is not only to help provide support to you, but also to assist in contact tracing for containing the spread of the virus.
- If you feel unwell, even if you have not been knowingly exposed to COVID-19, please do not come to class.
- If you are in quarantine, have been notified that you may have been exposed to COVID-19, or have a personal or family situation related to COVID-19 that prevents you from attending this course in person (or synchronously), please connect with your instructor to make alternative plans, as necessary.
- If you need to make a request for an academic consideration related to COVID-19, such as a discussion about possible options for remote learning, please talk with your instructor for the appropriate process to make a COVID-19 request (a university-level form can be found here).

**Health and Well-Being Resources**

These are difficult times, and academic and personal stress are natural results. Everyone is encouraged to take care of themselves and their peers. If you need additional support, there are many resources on campus to help you:

- Counseling Center (NCSU Counseling Center)
- Health Center (Health Services | Student)
- If the personal behavior of a classmate concerns or worries you, either for the classmate's well-being or yours, we encourage you to report this behavior to the NC State CARES team: (Share a Concern).
- If you or someone you know are experiencing food, housing or financial insecurity, please see the Pack Essentials Program (Pack Essentials).

**Community Standards related to COVID-19**

We are all responsible for protecting ourselves and our community. Please see the community standards and Rule 04.21.01 regarding Personal Safety Requirements Related to COVID-19 RUL 04.21.01 – Personal Safety Requirements Related to COVID-19 – Policies, Regulations & Rules

**Course Expectations Related to COVID-19**:

- **Face Coverings:** All members of the NC State academic community are required to follow all university guidelines for personal safety with face coverings, physical distancing, and sanitation. Face coverings are required in class and in all NC State buildings. Face coverings should be worn to cover the nose and mouth and be close fitting to the face with minimal gaps on the sides. In addition, students are responsible for keeping their course/work area clean. Please follow the cleaning guidelines described by the university.
- **Course Attendance**: NC State attendance policies can be found at: REG 02.20.03 – Attendance Regulations – Policies, Regulations & Rules . Please refer to the course's attendance, absence, and deadline policies for additional details. If you are quarantined or otherwise need to miss class because you have been advised that you may have been exposed to COVID-19, you should not be penalized regarding attendance or class participation. However, you will be expected to develop a plan to keep up with your coursework during any such absences. If you become ill with COVID-19, you should follow the steps outlined in the health and participation section above. COVID 19-related absences will be considered excused; documentation need only involve communication with your instructor.
- **Course Meeting Schedule**: Your course might not have a traditional meeting schedule in Spring 2021. Be sure to pay attention to any updates to the course schedule as the information in this syllabus may have changed. Please discuss any questions you have with the instructor.
- **Classroom Seating:** To support efficient, effective contact tracing, please sit in the same seat when possible and take note of who is sitting around you; instructors may also assign seats for this purpose.
- **Technology Requirements:** This course may require particular technologies to complete coursework. Be sure to review the syllabus for these expectations, and see the syllabus technical requirements for your course. If you need access to additional technological support, please contact the Libraries' Technology Lending Service: (Technology Lending).

**Course Delivery Changes Related to COVID-19**

Please be aware that the situation regarding COVID-19 is frequently changing, and the delivery mode of this course may need to change accordingly, including from in-person to online. Regardless of the delivery method, we will strive to provide a high-quality learning experience.

**Grading/Scheduling Changing Options Related to COVID-19**

If the delivery mode has a negative impact on your academic performance in this course, the university has provided tools to potentially reduce the impact:

- **Enhanced S/U Grading Option**: Enhanced Satisfactory/ Unsatisfactory Grading Option
- **Late Drop**: Enhanced Late Drop Option

In some cases, another option may be to request an incomplete in the course. Before using any of these tools, discuss the options with your instructor and your academic advisor. Be aware that if you use the enhanced S/U, you will still need to complete the course and receive at least a C- to pass the course.

**Need Help?**

If you find yourself in a place where you need help, academically or otherwise, please review this Step-by-Step Help Topics.

**Other Important Resources**

- **Keep Learning:** Keep Learning
- **Protect the Pack FAQs:** Frequently Asked Questions | Protect the Pack
- **NC State Protect the Pack Resources for Students:** Resources for Students | Protect the Pack
- **NC State Keep Learning, tips for students opting to take courses remotely:** Keep Learning Tips for Remote Learning
- **Introduction to Zoom for students:** https://youtu.be/5LbPzzPbYEw
- **Learning with Moodle, a student's guide to using Moodle:** https://moodle-projects.wolfware.ncsu.edu/course/view.php?id=226
- **NC State Libraries** Technology Lending Program