

Political Communication Project:

1. Population and Sampling
 - a. Sampling
 - i. Metacrawler (searches multiple search engine results)
 1. You choose search terms
 2. Will have to sift through results
 3. Once on search forum
 - a. Choose 3 threads: the one with the lowest (at least 5 posts), middle, and most posts.
 - b. Sample size=25 forums, three threads each
 4. Ignore instructional threads/topics (how-to post).
 5. Time frame-only record posts dating back to August 2010
 - b. **Data Collection:** Copy and paste the text of each website (all three threads) into a text document.
 2. As a group you will need to define each of these four concepts and describe how you know when they are present in a thread. (Ex Political discussion is present when....).
 - a. Political Talk
 - b. Political Discussion
 - c. Agreement/Disagreement
 - d. Civil/Uncivil
 3. Recording unit (level of analysis)
 - a. Thread
 4. Numeric coding scheme
 - a. Presence/absence
 - i. **Qualitative analysis:** For each thread you will need to code whether political talk, political discussion, agreement/disagreement, and civil/uncivil are present or absent in each thread.
- Interceder reliability (exchange 7 randomly selected text files)
 - Keep in mind that your results might be different from Mutz and Wojcieszak (2009).