STUDY GUIDE MIDTERM: POL 226
THURSDAY, MARCH 22

TOPICS: 1) Levels of measurement
         2) Sampling and survey techniques
         3) Reliability and validity of measures
         4) Operationalization of concepts
         5) Writing unbiased survey questions
         6) Scaling
         7) Level of analysis, unit of analysis

SAMPLE QUESTIONS: What is the level of measurement of the following variables:

   a) Race of respondent
   b) Income: 0 - $10,000, 10,001 - 20,000, 20,001 - 30,000 etc.
   c) Political participation: ranging from rarely participates to always participates
   d) Percent of individuals in each of the above categories (rarely participates)

What is the flaw in the following survey question:

*The courts should change their rulings on environmental legislation.*

   AGREE   DISAGREE

Given the following hypothesis: a) identify the dependent and independent variables, b) operationalize and develop measures of these concepts, c) explain how you will obtain the data (given an example of an unbiased survey question or explain the source of secondary data), d) choose a sampling technique (random, cluster, stratified), explain your choice, e) identify the unit and level of analysis (25 pts).

H₁: The higher an individual’s SES, the higher the individual’s level of political participation.