

# Case Study Research

---

Principles and Practices

Second Edition

**John Gerring**

*University of Texas at Austin*



# Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>page</i> xiii
<i>List of tables</i>	xiv
<i>Preface</i>	xvii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xxv
<i>Key symbols and terms</i>	xxviii

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Case studies</b>	1
1	<b>Surveys</b>	3
1.1	Intellectual histories	3
1.2	Bibliometrics	8
1.3	Exemplars	11
1.4	Summary	25
2	<b>Definitions</b>	26
2.1	Case	27
2.2	Case study	28
2.3	Additional terms	31
2.4	Summary	36
<b>Part II</b>	<b>Selecting cases</b>	37
3	<b>Overview of case selection</b>	39
3.1	Strategies and criteria	39
3.2	Clarifications	46

	3.3 Validation	52
	3.4 Summary	55
4	<b>Descriptive case studies</b>	56
	4.1 Typical	56
	4.2 Diverse	58
	4.3 Summary	62
5	<b>Causal case studies</b>	63
	5.1 Exploratory	65
	5.2 Estimating	92
	5.3 Diagnostic	98
	5.4 Summary	117
6	<b>Algorithms and samples</b>	118
	6.1 Random sampling	119
	6.2 Algorithmic (“quantitative”) case selection	122
	6.3 The size question revisited	128
	6.4 Summary	133
<b>Part III</b>	<b>Analyzing cases</b>	135
7	<b>A typology of research designs</b>	137
	7.1 Case study evidence	139
	7.2 Multimethod studies	144
	7.3 Summary	151
8	<b>Quantitative and qualitative modes of analysis</b>	153
	8.1 Quantitative analysis	155
	8.2 Qualitative analysis	157
	8.3 Standards for qualitative inquiry	164

---

8.4	Rules of thumb for qualitative inquiry	170
8.5	Summary	189
<b>Part IV</b>	<b>Validity</b>	<b>193</b>
9	<b>Internal validity</b>	<b>195</b>
9.1	Manipulable causes	197
9.2	Causal comparability	202
9.3	Front-door approaches	206
9.4	Transparency, replicability	208
9.5	Separation of theory formation and testing	213
9.6	Informative estimates of uncertainty	214
9.7	Summary	217
10	<b>External validity</b>	<b>219</b>
10.1	Sample representativeness	220
10.2	A two-level game	222
10.3	Establishing scope conditions	228
10.4	Assessing external validity	235
10.5	Summary	239
<b>Part V</b>	<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>241</b>
11	<b>Tradeoffs</b>	<b>243</b>
11.1	Validity: internal versus external	244
11.2	Research goal: depth versus breadth	245
11.3	Causal insight: mechanisms versus effects	247
11.4	Population: heterogeneous versus homogeneous	253
11.5	Variation in $X$ and $Y$ : rare versus common	258
11.6	Data: concentrated versus diffuse	260

11.7 Hypothesis: generating versus testing	263
11.8 From Tradeoffs to Synergies	271
<i>References</i>	274
<i>Index</i>	319