

The Use of Mixed Methods in Public Administration: Lessons Learned, Future Directions
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Research in public administration is increasingly vested in the employment of more than one empirical approach to analyzing some of the most important questions in the field. Indeed, taking on these research questions often involves the use of both quantitative and qualitative data, methods, and paradigms. Such multimethod approaches have the advantage of providing a more holistic view of social science research as well as pointing out the shortcomings of more narrow designs used to gauge the human factor (see Pandey, 2017; Raimondo and Newcomer, 2017). This panel encourages submissions/abstracts employing a mixed method approach to a particular public administration topic, such as human resources, budgeting, and policy (see e.g., Girth, 2014; Newman, Cherney and Head, 2016) or method syntheses taking a more robust assessment of the state of this emerging field (Hendren, Luo, and Pandey, Forthcoming; Raimondo and Newcomer, 2017).

Potential topics for the panel include:

1. triangulation of results to encourage more robust research that speaks to practitioner interests,
2. the use of observational or administrative data, structured interviews, and randomized control trials in assessing public management topics,
3. research syntheses on mixed methods use in public administration, public management, and/or meta analyses of research questions of both observational and experimental data.

References

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Pandey, Sanjay K. 2017. Theory and Method in Public Administration. *Review of Public Personnel Administration* 37(2): 131-138.

Raimondo, Estelle, and Kathryn Newcomer. 2017. Mixed-Methods Inquiry in Public Administration: The Interaction of Theory, Methodology, and Praxis. *Review of Public Personnel Administration* 37(2), 183-201.