

PRE-REQUISITE(S)

No pre-requisite is required

CREDIT HOURS

3

SYNOPSIS

This module provides an overview to various approaches and debates in relations to theory and practice of qualitative research from conceptualization, through design, and data collection processes. This includes a discussion of qualitative research design and the role of theory in guiding and informing research design. It will further look into recent debates on whether qualitative and quantitative research are complementary or competing models of research. The course is designed to help doctoral students write a research proposal focusing on the use of four data collection methods commonly used in qualitative research, namely Observation, interview, focus group and use of documents and archival. The module also intends to create critical awareness with respect to the importance of being sensitive to the researcher's positionality, ethical issues, and threats to validity.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Critically evaluate and apply qualitative research methods to collect, analyse and interpret qualitative data.
- Identify ethical and political issues affecting individual researcher-research relationships.
- Create and present a coherent proposal with systematic approach in framing of research questions through literature review, research design and qualitative research methods and ethical consideration.

TOPICS

Topic 1	Intellectual underpinnings of qualitative research including Phenomenology, Symbolic Interactionism, Verstehsan, Naturalism, Ethogenics
Topic 2	Nature and Characteristics of Qualitative Research
Topic 3	Identification of a qualitative researchable problem (problem statement)
Topic 4	Undertaking relevant literature review
Topic 5	Ethics and Access in Quality Research
Topic 6	Describing and justifying the different types of qualitative research methods
Topic 7	Presentation of statement of problem and literature review

Topic 8 Making sense of Qualitative Data: Analysis and Interpretation

Topic 9 Discussion of the detailed plan of the final assignment

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Continuous Assessment	%
Class Participation	10
Individual Presentation	10
Group Presentation	10
Assignment 1	20
Final Assessment	%
Final Assignment	50

PRESCRIBED TEXT

Main:

Krueger, R.A. & Casey, M.A. (2015). *Focus Groups: A Practical Guide for Applied Research*. Los Angeles: SAGE Publications.

Rosman, G.B. & Rallis, S.F. (2017). *An introduction to Qualitative Research: Learning in the Field* (4th edition). London: Sage. Chapter 1: Qualitative research as learning (pp.1-22).

Seidman, I. (2019). *Interviewing as qualitative research: A guide for researchers in education and the social sciences* (5th ed.). New York and London: Teachers College Press.

Additional References:

Bell, J. (2011). *Doing your Research Project*. Milton Keynes, UK: Open University Press. Denscombe, M. (2010). *Ground rules for social research: Guidelines for good practice* (2nd ed.). Maidenhead: Open University.

Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches* (3rd ed.). London: SAGE Publications.

Fisher, C. (2010). *Researching and writing a dissertation: An essential guide for business students* (3rd ed.). Harlow, UK: Pearson Education.

Bell, J. (2011). *Doing your Research Project*. Milton Keynes, UK: Open University Press.