

2228: Introduction to qualitative research methods

The Department of Socioeconomics offers knowledge in socio-economic theories and training in methods. A special focus of this course is on qualitative methods. It seeks to give its students an understanding of the challenges and methodological foundations of research. Specifically, the course deals with basic knowledge and skills needed for applying qualitative methods. MORE students will understand key trends and strategies in qualitative methods which are gaining more and more attention.

Detailed schedule	Content
Thursday, 28.01.2016 9.00 am – 2.00 pm TC 3.09	9.00-10.30 Introduction to qualitative methods 15 min Break 10.45-12.15 Qualitative interviews 1 15 min Break 12.30-14.00 Qualitative interviews 2
Tuesday, 09.02.2016 9.00 am – 2.00 pm TC 3.09	9.00-10.30 Participant Observation 15 min Break 10.45-12.15: Focus Groups 15 min Break 12.30-14.00 Qualitative Analysis and Conclusions
Tuesday, 16.02.2016 9.00 am – 11.00 am TC 3.09	Group Presentations of Topics – in a conference style Discussion

Basic Literature:

- Finch, Helen, & Lewis, Jane. (2012). Focus Groups. In J. Ritchie & J. Lewis (Eds.), *Qualitative Research Practice. A guide for Social Science Students and Researchers*. Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, Singapore, Washington DC: Sage, p. 170-198.
- Legard, Robin, Keegan, Jill, & Ward, Kit. (2012). In-depth Interviews. In J. Ritchie & J. Lewis (Eds.), *Qualitative Research Practice. A Guide for Social Science Students and Researchers*. London, Los Angeles, New Delhi, Singapore, Washington DC: Sage, p. 138-169.
- Strauss, Anselm, L., & Corbin, Juliet. (1990). *Basics of Qualitative Research. Grounded Theory Procedures and Techniques*. Newbury Park, London, New Delhi: Sage, p. 17-40.
- Whyte, William Foote. (1993 [1943]). *Street Corner Society. The Social Structure of an Italian Slum*. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press, p. 288-337.

Further Literature available for free at: <http://www.qualitative-research.net/index.php/fqs/issue/view/26>

Learning Outcomes:

The overall objective is to make students familiar with current challenges and opportunities in doing social research. Specifically, the course intends to help students achieve the following learning objectives:

- To be familiar with the basic concepts of qualitative methods.
- To be knowledgeable about widespread methods such as interview, focus group and observation. Moreover, to gain some insights in how to apply these methods in practice.

- To reflect critically upon the strengths and limitations of research methods.

Teaching and Learning Methods:

- Presentations by lecturer
- Class room discussion
- Group work

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Assessment:

90% Final presentation of the group work (90 credits)

10% Individual contributions (=10 credits)

Total credits:	<u>100 credits</u>
Excellent:	89-100
Good:	76-88
Satisfactory:	63-75
Sufficient:	51-62
Fail:	0-50