

Course instructors: Dr Piotr Binder, Dr Marta Olcoń-Kubicka

**Approaches to Qualitative Methods in Research Practice 1
(*Winter semester*)**

Academic year 2018/2019

Basic information

Seminar, equivalent of one semester, 34 hours

Meeting every Monday, 14.00 – 15.30

Organizational meeting - November 5, regular classes start on November 12

The course description

The course is designed primarily for PhD students on the early stages of their dissertation research, but may be helpful for other students as well. A central goal of it is to provide basic training in qualitative methods and support participants: in specifying the methods they are going to apply within their PhD research projects, shaping their research strategies, and considering possible approaches to analyzing data.

The course consists of three parts. The first one (meetings 1-3) covers introductory meeting (definitional and epistemological questions), discussion on the role of theory within the area of qualitative research and (very often omitted) ethical aspects of doing qualitative research. The second part (meetings 4-12) focuses on research design and the main non statistical methods of collecting verbal data as well as data beyond talk. The third (meetings 13-17) part of the course is devoted to the process of analyzing data and possible approaches to it.

Learning outcomes likely to be achieved

By the end of the course students should be able to understand the nature non statistical research methods in social sciences, their advantages and disadvantages (together with their limitations), but also to be able to critically evaluate scholarly work. Students are expected to be familiar with up to date methodological literature as well as with classical examples of the application of the discussed research methods. They are expected to be able to match their research problems and questions with the qualitative

methods and techniques, and to be able to justify their choices. Finally they are expected to contemplate on possible approaches to analyzing data before or at the initial stages of their dissertation research.

I. Theoretical issues and initial foray

1. Qualitative research: strengths and weaknesses

Readings:

- Flick, Uwe. 2009. *An Introduction to Qualitative Research (Edition 4)*. London: Sage. Ch 2. Qualitative Research: Why and How to Do it (pp. 11-23), Ch 3. Qualitative and Quantitative Research (pp. 23-35).
- Kvale, Steinar and Svend Brinkmann. 2009. *InterViews Learning the Craft of Qualitative Research Interviewing*. London: Sage. Ch 3. Epistemological issues of interviewing (pp. 47-60).

Supplementary readings:

- Corbin, Juliete, and Anselm Strauss. 2008. *Basics of Qualitative Research (3rd Edition)*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. Introduction (pp. 1-19).

2. Theoretical issues in qualitative research

Readings:

- Babbie, Earl. 2010. *The Practice of Social Research (12th edition)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. Ch 2. Paradigms, Theory, and Research (pp. 31-61).
- Flick, Uwe. 2009. *An Introduction to Qualitative Research (Edition 4)*. London: Sage. Ch 7. Theoretical Positions Underlying Qualitative Research (pp. 56-73).
- Silverman, David. 2005. *Doing Qualitative Research (2nd Edition)*. London: Sage. Ch 7. Using Theories (pp. 95-109).

Supplementary readings:

- Becker, Howard. 1998. *Tricks of the Trade. How to Think About your Research While You're Doing It*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. Ch 1. Tricks (pp. 7-20), Ch 2. Imagery (pp. 21-95).

3. Ethical dilemmas in conducting qualitative research

Readings:

- Flick, Uwe. 2009. *An Introduction to Qualitative Research (Edition 4)*. London: Sage. Ch 4. Ethics of Qualitative Research (pp. 35-44).
- Kvale, Steinar and Svend Brinkmann. 2009. *InterViews Learning the Craft of Qualitative Research Interviewing*. London: Sage. Ch 4. Ethical Issues of Interviewing (pp. 61-80).

Supplementary readings:

- Wood, Elisabeth Jean. 2006. "The Ethical Challenges of Field Research in Conflict Zones." *Qualitative Sociology*, 29 (pp. 373-386).
- Christians, Clifford G. 2000. Ethics and Politics in Qualitative Research (pp. 133-155) In: Norman K. Denzin, Yvonna S. Lincoln (Eds.). *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research (2nd Edition)*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

4. Defining research questions and developing a research project

Readings:

- Flick, Uwe. 2009. *An Introduction to Qualitative Research (Edition 4)*. London: Sage. Ch 8. The Qualitative Research Process (pp. 89-98); Ch 9. Research Questions (pp 97- 104); Ch 12. How to Design Qualitative Research: An Overview (pp. 127-146).

Supplementary reading:

- Lofland, John [et al.] 2006. *Analyzing social settings : a guide to qualitative observation and analysis* (Edition 4). Belmont, CA : Wadsworth/Thomson Learning. Ch 1. Starting Where You Are (pp. 9-14), Ch 7. Asking Questions (pp. 144-167).
- Merton, Robert K. 1959. "Notes on Problem-Finding in Sociology" (pp. 17-42). In: Robert K. Merton, Leonard Broom, and Leonard S. Cottrell. *Sociology Today: Problems and Prospects*. New York. Basic Books Inc.

5. Writing research proposals and grant applications

Readings:

- Flick, Uwe. 2007. *Designing Qualitative Research*. London: Sage. Ch. 3. Sampling, selecting and access (pp. 25-35); Ch 4. Qualitative research designs (pp 36-50); Ch 5. Resources and stepping-stones (pp. 51-60); Ch 11. Designing qualitative research: some conclusions (109-114).

II. Gathering/generating new data

6. Ethnographical research

Readings:

- Gobo, Giampietro and Lukas T. Marciniak. What is Ethnography? (pp. 103-120) In: David Silverman (Ed.) 2016. *Qualitative Research 4E*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Emerson, Robert M., Rachel I. Fretz, and Linda L. Shaw. 1995. *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. Ch 1. Fieldnotes in Ethnographic Research (pp. 1-16), Ch. 2. [separate file on Common] In the Field: Participating, Observing, and Jotting Notes (pp. 17-38).

Supplementary readings:

- Becker, Howard S. 1958. "Problems of inference and proof in participant observation". *American Sociological Review* Vol. 23. No. 6 (pp. 652-660).
- Riecken, Henry. 1956. "The Unidentified Interviewer." *American Journal of Sociology*. Vol 62, No 2 (pp. 210-212).
- Whyte, William F. 1993 [1943]. *Street Corner Society. The Social Structure of an Italian Slum (4th Edition)*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

7. Interviews: part 1

Readings:

- Flick, Uwe. 2009. *An Introduction to Qualitative Research (Edition 4)*. London: Sage. Ch 13. Interviews (pp. 149-175), Ch. 14. Narratives (pp.176-194)

Supplementary readings:

- Kvale, Steinar and Svend Brinkmann. 2009. *InterViews Learning the Craft of Qualitative Research Interviewing*. London: Sage, Ch 6. Thematizing and Designing an Interview Study (pp. 99-123).

8. Interviews: part 2

Readings:

- Flick, Uwe. 2009. *An Introduction to Qualitative Research (Edition 4)*. London: Sage. Ch 15. Focus Groups (pp. 194-210), Ch 16. Verbal Data: An Overview (pp. 210-218).

Supplementary readings:

- Fontana, Andrea, and James H. Frey. 2000. The Interview: From Structured Questions to Negotiated Text (pp. 645-673). In: Norman K. Denzin, Yvonna S. Lincoln (Eds.). *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Kvale, Steinar and Svend Brinkmann. 2009. *InterViews Learning the Craft of Qualitative Research Interviewing*. London: Sage, Ch 7. Conducting an Interview (pp. 123-142): Ch. 8. Interview Variations (pp. 143-160).
- Rubin, Herbert J., and Irene S. Rubin. 1995. *Qualitative Interviewing. The Art of Hearing Data*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

9. Case Study

Readings:

- Ragin, Charles C. and Howard S. Baker. 1992. *What Is a Case? Exploring the Foundations of Social Inquiry*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Introduction. Introduction: Cases of "What is a case?" (pp. 1-17).
- Silverman, David. 2005. *Doing Qualitative Research (2nd Edition)*. London: Sage. Ch 9. Selecting a case (pp. 125-139).

Supplementary readings:

- George, Alexander L., and Andrew Bennett. 2005. *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Wieviorka, Michael. 2000. "Case Studies: History or Sociology?" (pp. 159-172) in: Ragin, Charles C. and Howard S. Baker. 2000. *What Is a Case? Exploring the Foundations of Social Inquiry*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

10. Documents as Data

Readings:

- Flick, Uwe. 2009. *An Introduction to Qualitative Research (Edition 4)*. London: Sage. Ch 22. Using Documents as Data (pp. 254-263).
- Rapley, Tim. 2007. *Doing Conversation, Discourse and Document Analysis*. London: Sage. Ch 9. Exploring documents (pp. 111-125).
- Prior, Lindsay. 2003. *Using Documents in Social Research*. London: Sage. Ch 3. Documents in Action. Documents in Organizational Settings (pp. 50-69).

Supplementary Reading:

- Garfinkel, Harold. 1999 [1967] *Studies in Ethnomethodology*. Cambridge: Blackwell Publishers. Ch 6. Good organizational reasons for 'bad' clinical records (pp. 186-208)

11. Qualitative Discourse Analysis

Readings:

- Fairclough, Norman. 1998. *Discourse and Social Change*. Cambridge: Polity, Introduction (pp. 1-12), Ch 1. Approaches to Discourse Analysis (pp. 12-37).
- Potter, Johnattan, and Margaret Wetherell. 2002. *Analyzing Discourse* (pp. 47-66), In: Alan Bryman, and Robert G. Burgess (Eds) *Analyzing Qualitative Data*. New York: Routledge.

Supplementary reading:

- Unher, Johann W. et al., *Critical Discourse Studies and Social Media Data* (277-293), In: David Silverman (Ed.) 2016. *Qualitative Research 4E*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

12. Mixed Methods Research

Readings:

- Creswell, John W. and Vicki L. Plano Clark. 2006. *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*. Ch 1. Understanding Mixed Methods Research (pp. 1-19).
- Johnson, R. Burke et al. 2007. "Toward a Definition of Mixed Methods Research", *Journal of mixed methods Research* Vol 1, No2 (pp. 112-133).

Supplementary readings:

- Teddlie , Charles, and Abbas Tashakkori. 2011. Overview of Contemporary Issues in Mixed Methods Research (pp. 1-41). In: Abbas Tashakkori, and Charles Teddlie (Eds). *SAGE Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Sciences (2nd Edition)*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Creswell, John. 2011. Controversies in Mixed Method Research (pp. 269-284). In: Norman K. Denzin, Yvonna S. Lincoln (Eds.). *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research (4^h Edition)*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

III. Data Analysis

13. Qualitative Data Analysis – An Introduction

Readings:

- Rapley, Tim. Some Pragmatics of Qualitative Data Analysis (pp. 331-346). In: David Silverman (Ed.) 2016. *Qualitative Research 4E*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Silverman, David. 2005. *Doing Qualitative Research (2nd Edition)*. London: Sage. Ch 11. Beginning Data Analysis (pp. 149-170), Ch 12. Developing Data Analysis (pp. 171-188).

Supplementary readings:

- Lofland, John [et al.] 2006. *Analyzing social settings: a guide to qualitative observation and analysis* (Edition 4). Belmont, CA : Wadsworth/Thomson Learning. Ch 9. Developing Analysis (pp. 195-219).
- Hughes, Christina. 2001. From Field notes to dissertation: analyzing the stepfamily (pp. 35-47). In: Alan Bryman, and Robert G. Burgess (Eds) *Analyzing Qualitative Data*. New York: Rutledge.

14. Basic Approaches to Qualitative Text Analysis

Reading:

- Kukartz, Udo. 2014. *Qualitative Text Analysis*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. Ch 4. Three Basic Methods of Qualitative Text Analysis (pp. 65-121)

15. The Practice of Grounded Theory Method

Readings:

- Charmaz, Cathy. 2006. *Constructing Grounded Theory. A Practical Guide Through Qualitative Analysis*. London: Sage. Ch 1. An Invitation to Grounded Theory (pp.1-12), Ch 6. Reconstructing Theory in Grounded Theory Studies (pp. 123-150).
- Corbin, Juliet, and Anselm Strauss. 2008. *The Basics of Qualitative Research. Techniques and Procedures for Developing Grounded Theory* (3rd Edition). Thousand Oaks: Sage. Ch 3. Prelude to Analysis (pp. 45-64), Ch. 4. Strategies for Qualitative Data Analysis (pp. 65-86).

Supplementary readings:

- Glaser, Barney, and Anselm Strauss. 1967. *The Discovery of Grounded Theory*. Chicago: Aldine.
- Gibson, Barry, and Jan Hartman. 2014. *Rediscovering of Grounded Theory*. London: Sage.

16. Re-use of Qualitative Data

Readings:

- Bishop, Libby. Secondary Analysis of Qualitative Data (pp. 331-347). In: David Silverman (Ed.) 2016. *Qualitative Research 4E*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Kelder, Jo-Anne. 2005. Using Someone Else's Data: Problems, Pragmatics and Provisions. *Forum: Qualitative Social Research*. Vol 6, No1.

Supplementary readings:

- Medjedović, Irena. 2011. "Secondary Analysis of Qualitative Interview Data: Objections and Experiences. Results of a German Feasibility Study". *Forum: Qualitative Social Research*. Vol 12, No 3.
- Van der Berg, Hary. 2005. "Reanalyzing Qualitative Interviews from Different Angles: The Risk of Decontextualization and Other Problems of Sharing Qualitative Data." *Forum: Qualitative Social Research*. Vol 6, No1.

17. Writing Qualitative Research

Readings:

- Abbott, Andrew. 2014. Digital Paper: A Manual for Research and Writing with Library and Internet Materials, Chicago University Press. Ch. 12 Endphase, (pp 238-247).
- Becker Howard. 2007. - Writing for Social Scientists: How to Start and Finish Your Thesis, Book, or Article, Chicago University Press, selected chapters.

Supplementary readings:

- Abbott, Andrew. 2004. Methods of Discovery: Heuristics for the Social Sciences. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

25% - active participation in seminar discussions, sharing ideas and insights (half of the class will be devoted to discussion)

75% - written assignment

Each participant of the „ Qualitative Methods in Research Practice 1” course must submit a standard **3000 words (+/- 5%) essay in English (plus abstract and bibliography)** presenting the methodological part of his or her PhD project including the research design and methodological orientation. At the same time, this document should NOT be a synopsis or an outline of a PhD project. The topic is expected to fall within the broad area of qualitative methods.

Participants who do not apply any qualitative methods, will analyze a sociological monograph, where qualitative methods were the essence of the empirical part. The book must have academic character and the analysis should include three basic elements: (1) brief description of the qualitative methods used by the author(s); (2) a critique of it; (3) suggestions for a revised research design.

All participants are expected to write clearly and edit carefully.

All essays need to be submitted via “Turn It In” website.

The maximum grade for an essay submitted after the deadline is C.

Deadline: TBC

Approaches to Qualitative Methods in Research Practice 2

Analyzing Qualitative Data with MAXQDA

Basic information

Workshop, 26 hours over 4 weeks (May, 2019)
Meetings twice a week: Mondays, Fridays 17.00 – 20.00h
First meeting: May 8, 2019

The course description

This is an intensive course (to be thought over 4 weeks) and is designed as a continuation of the “Approaches to Qualitative Methods in Research Practice 1”.

Implementation of CAQDA enhances ***systematic and transparent analysis of qualitative data***. CAQDA supports improvements in qualitative research design. It also facilitates the cooperation between PhD students and their supervisors by allowing the users to document and visualize the consecutive steps of their analysis. The functions related to summarizing data are also very useful in situations when supervisors do speak the language in which the research was conducted.

Analyzing Qualitative Data with MAXQDA consists of a mixture of demonstrations and guided practice, focusing on the practical knowledge required for using this software for the analysis of qualitative data. The course is intended to be offered for all students, who are looking for a hands-on, praxis-oriented training in computer-supported analysis of qualitative data.

Learning outcomes likely to be achieved.

After completing this course, participants will be able to create and conduct the analysis of their projects in MAXQDA. The students will be familiar not only with all the substantial functions that the package offers, but also should be able to assess how to:

- organize the workflow;
- allocate their time;
- create progress reports and state-of-art presentations.

Session 1. Introduction to MAXQDA (2x2h)

- Understanding the user interface
- Overview of the toolbars and ribbons
- Preparing and importing various types of files
- Creating a MAXQDA project, project file backups
- Importing data
- Viewing and editing data

Session 2 . Coding with MAXQDA (2x2h)

- Code system and creating codes for various types of files
- Code properties
- Code comments
- Code hierarchy
- Open coding, in vivo coding, a priori coding
- Coding data segments, modifying coded segments
- Overview of codes
- Auto-coding search results
- Using the lexical search tool; word frequency; stop word list
- Smart coding tool
- Creative coding

Session 3. Transcribing audio files with MAXQDA (2x2h)

- Media player toolbar
- Transcribing directly in MAXQDA
- Synchronizing transcripts with audio/video files
- Inserting timestamps to existing transcriptions
- Importing f4/f5 transcripts with timestamps

Variables

- Creating and editing variables
- Data edition
- Variables as tooltips

Session 4. Memos, text search and coded data search (2x2h)

- Creating and managing memos
- Overview of memos
- Lexical searches
- Auto-coding search results
- Extended lexical search
- Keyword in the context
- Managing retrieved segments
- Simple and complex coding queries
- Complex retrieval functions

Session 5. Visual tools with MAXQDA (2x2h)

- Code Matrix Browser: identifying code frequencies
- Code Relations Browser: Identifying overlapping codes
- Comparing documents with the Document Comparison Chart
- Document Portrait

- Codeline and sequential visualization of a document
- Concept maps and how to use them

Session 6. Developing analysis with MAXQDA (2x2h)

- Paraphrasing
- Summarising
- Comparing groups
- Elements of mixed methods

Session 7. Reporting and MAXAp (2h)

- Smart Publisher
- Codebook
- Summaries with coded segments
- MAXAp for Android and iOS

General readings

MAXQDA 12. The Art of Data Analysis – Complete Manual. VERBI Software. Consult. Sozialforschung. GmbH Berlin/Germany. Electronic document: http://www.maxqda.com/download/manuals/MAX12_manual_eng.pdf [28.02.2016]

Kukckartz, Udo. 2014. *Qualitative Text Analysis. A Guide to Methods, Practice and Using Software*. Sage Publications, London

Creswell, John and Vicki L. Plano Clark. 2011. *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*. 2nd Edition. Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks.

Charmaz, Kathy. 2014. *Constructing Grounded Theory. A Practical Guide through Qualitative Analysis*. Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks.

Corbin, Juliet. 2008. *Basics of Qualitative Research. Techniques and Procedures for Developing Grounded Theory*. 3rd Edition, Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks.

Gibbs, Graham. 2014. "CAQDAS teaching in the UK". In: *NCRM Research Methods Festival, July 8-10, 2014*, Oxford. Electronic document: <http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/22746/2/GibbsCaq.pdf> [28.02.2016]

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Assignment – Each student should prepare a **3000 words report (+/- 5%)** containing an analysis of the pilot (initial part) of project of student's choice (preferably directly related to the PhD dissertation) based on at least three units of analysis. The aim of this exercise is to enable each student to demonstrate his or her proficiency in using MAXQDA package.

Due to: 4 weeks after last meeting

Deadline: TBC