

CRP 7201: Research Design

New Room: 261 E Sibley Hall (Fine Arts Library – go all the way to the east end of the Library)

New Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:10-11:25 am Fall 2008

3 Credits

Office Hours: Tues – Thurs 1:00-3:00 pm and by appointment.

Class Web Site: <http://blackboard.cornell.edu/>

Professor Mildred Warner, mew15@cornell.edu, 255-6816, 215 W. Sibley Hall
<http://government.cce.cornell.edu>

This course will help graduate students select appropriate research design and field methods for thesis research. The course provides a comprehensive review of the research design process and will result in each student developing his/her project proposal. The first section of the course focuses on articulating the research objectives, choosing a research paradigm, preparing the literature review, developing a fundraising strategy and ethics. The second section of the course focuses on managing the research process itself and selecting the appropriate data collection strategy. Case studies, interviews, focus groups, surveys and use of census or archival data will be reviewed along with a review of major approaches to quantitative or qualitative analysis. Students will develop a clearer idea of their project focus during this course as all assignments will be geared toward building a complete project proposal.

This course is strongly recommended for PhD students developing their thesis proposals. This course is designed for PhD students as an integrative preparation for researching and writing a dissertation and for building a career as a researcher. It assumes that students will be exposed to specialized literatures and in-depth research methods in other coursework, either before or after this course. The focus is on understanding the PhD as a research degree and the role that a dissertation plays in training you to be an original, creative and relevant researcher. The course exposes you to the process of creative research by sequentially exploring 1) the relationship between researcher and reader/recipient of the results; 2) how to choose researchable topics; 3) moving from question to hypothesis; 4) designing a research project; 5) understanding the strengths and weaknesses of different types of evidence brought to bear on your hypotheses; 6) addressing policy inferences that could be drawn from your results; 6) thinking about audience for your work (funders, professors, future employers, future journal articles)

All required books and articles (except web based publications which can be viewed on line) are on reserve in the Fine Arts Library. You may wish to purchase books which go into detail on methods you expect to be using. We will be reading a lot of Creswell, Miles and Huberman so you may wish to purchase these.

Required or Recommended Books:

Creswell, John W. 2003. *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Miles, M.B. and Huberman, A.M. 1994. *Qualitative Data Analysis: An Expanded Sourcebook*. 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Other Recommended readings:

Yin, Robert K. (2003). *Case study research: Design and methods* (Applied social research methods series (v.5). Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage Publications. (or 1994 version)

Gaber, John and Gaber, Sharon (2007). *Qualitative Analysis for Planning and Policy: Beyond the Numbers*, Planners Press APA Washington, DC.

Tasshakkori, Abbas, and Teddlie, Charles. 1998. *Mixed Methodology: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Sage Publications: Thousand Oaks, CA.

Lofland, John, & Lofland, Lyn H. (2006). *Analyzing social settings: A guide to qualitative observation and analysis*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning. Or 1995 version

Denzin, Norman K. and Lincoln, Yvonna S. (1994 and 2005) (eds). *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research*. Third Edition. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications. Or 1994 version.

Axinn, William and Lisa Pearce, (2006) *Mixed Method Data Collection Strategies*, Cambridge, Univ Press, NY, NY

Assignments and Grading

Class participation is critical. Students must be prepared to discuss readings in class. Written summaries of readings will be required. Small writing assignments will be due almost weekly. Article summaries and other written assignments must be posted to class web site 24 hours in advance of discussion so I and other students can review and give you comments in class. Students will be assessed on the quality of their critiques of each other's work.

Weekly assignments and article reviews	30%
Quality of Review of Peer's work	10%
Concept Paper	10%
Literature Review	10%
Methodology Section	10%
Final Proposal	25%
Final Presentation	5%

Syllabus

August 28 Introduction and Overview of Course

Syllabus and work overview.

Writing assignment in class – 1 paragraph description of your research project with conceptual diagram.

Sept 2 Research Paradigms

Guba, Egon. G. and Yvonna S. Lincoln. 1994. Competing Paradigms in Qualitative Research. pp 105-117 in Handbook of Qualitative Research ed. by Norman Denzin and Yvonna Lincoln. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Tashakkori, Abbas, and Teddlie, Charles. 1998. Mixed Methodology: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches. Sage Publications: Thousand Oaks, CA. Chapter 2 Pp. 20-40 “Pragmatism and the Choice of Research Strategy.”

Creswell, John W. 2003. Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. Chapter 1 “A Framework for Design” pp 1-26

Kuhn, Thomas S. (1996). *The structure of scientific revolutions*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

-- Required if have not read before.

Sept 4 Qualitative, Quantitative or Mixed Methods?

Gaber, John and Gaber, Sharon (2007). *Qualitative Analysis for Planning and Policy: Beyond the Numbers*, Planners Press APA Washington, DC. Chapters 1 and 8.

Axinn, William and Lisa Pearce, (2006) *Mixed Method Data Collection Strategies*, Cambridge Univ. Press, NY, NY Chapter 1 “Motivations for Mixed Methods Social Research”

Recommended

Morrow, R.A. with D.D. Brown, 1994. "Deconstructing the Conventional Discourse of Methodology: Quantitative Versus Qualitative Methods," *Critical Theory and Methodology*, Sage Publications: Thousand Oaks, CA, pp. 199-225.

Reason, Peter. 1994 Three Approaches to Participative Inquiry pp 324-229 in *Handbook of Qualitative Research* ed. by Norman Denzin and Yvonna Lincoln. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Sept 9 Group Discussion

Assignment due Sept 8 (post to Blackboard): Show how your research topic could be studied under the different knowledge claims, strategies of inquiry and methods discussed. Use Figure 1.2 in Creswell as your guide.

Sept 11 Article Review and Discussion 3-5 pages (Article review due Wednesday Sept 10th)

Read, critique and write a review of a research article from a top journal in your field. Discuss paradigm, method of data collection and analysis and its appropriateness to the research question. Provide a reflection on the strengths and limitations of the approach and how it might inform your own work. Include a discussion of the following elements in your review.

- Framing the problem and purpose
- Situating the study in the literature
- Informed by a conceptual and/or theoretical framework
- Appropriateness of the methods
- Researcher's role in the setting
- Quality of findings
- Ways researcher analyzed and represented the data

Sept 16 - 18 Defining Your Question

Conceptual Framework

Marshall, Catherine and Rossman, Gretchen B. 1999. Chapter 2 “The ‘what’ of the study: Building the conceptual framework” (pp. 21-54).

Creswell, Chapter 7 “Uses of Theory” pp. 119-141

Recommended

Lofland and Lofland 1995 or 2006, Chapter 1

Defining the Research Question

Miller, Delbert C. and Salkind, Neil J. 2002. Handbook of Research Design and Social Measurement (6th edition). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications. Read Part II “Basic Research Design”, focusing on pp. 13-23.

Miles, M.B. and Huberman, A.M. 1994. Qualitative Data Analysis: An Expanded Sourcebook. 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. Chapter 2 "Focusing and Bounding the Collection of Data: The Substantive Start." Pp 16-39

Writing the Concept Paper

Chapters from Creswell, 2003,
Chapter 4 Introduction, pp71-86

Chapter 5 The purpose statement, pp87-104

Chapter 6 Research Questions and Hypotheses, pp105-118

Chapter 8 Definitions, Delimitations, and Significance, pp. 142-152

Sept 23 Situating Your Research: Political Context, Ethical Issues

Assignment: Take Human Subjects Test, List key ethical questions you will face.

Ethics

Miles, M.B. and Huberman, A.M. 1994. Qualitative Data Analysis: An Expanded Sourcebook. 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. Chapter 11 "Ethical issues in analysis." Pp. 288-297.

Review Creswell 62-66

Review Planner's Code of Ethics

<http://www.planning.org/ethics/conduct.html> and President Farmer's statement on why code was revised. <http://www.planning.org/ethics/pdf/farmeraddress.pdf>

Review University Committee on Human Subjects Guidelines. Take test

http://www.irb.cornell.edu/training/menu_soc.html

Here is the link to the test:

<http://www.irb.cornell.edu/training/quizzesoc/quiz.cfm>

Recommended

Throgmorton, James A. 1996. "Impeaching" Research: Planning as Persuasive and Constitutive Discourse. Pp 345-364 in Explorations in Planning Theory ed by S. J. Mandelbaum, L. Mazza and R. W. Burchell. New Brunswick, NJ:Center for Urban Policy Research. (Skim)

Baum, Howell S. 1996. Practicing Planning Theory in a Political World. Pp 365-382 in Explorations in Planning Theory ed by S. J. Mandelbaum, L. Mazza and R. W. Burchell. New Brunswick, NJ: Center for Urban Policy Research.

Sept 25 Discuss First Drafts of Concept Papers

Assignment: Concept Papers 2-4 pp due Monday Sept 22nd.

Sept 30 Literature Review

(1 page lit review outline due Oct 6th)

Creswell, Chapter 2, Review of the Literature, pp 27-48

Oct 2 Fundraising (Oct 1 funder profile due)

Assignment: Funder profiles – Identify funders for your work. Describe goals and objectives of funders and how your work might fit. Outline proposal format and funding guidelines (limitations) and time lines for each funding source.

Janice Morse, 1994. "Designing Funded Qualitative Research." pp 220-235 in Handbook of Qualitative Research ed. by Norman Denzin and Yvonna Lincoln. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.

Recommended

Miller and Salkind. 2002. Pp.663-760 "Part 8: Research proposal, funding, budgeting, reporting, and career planning." Good list of grant sources.

Bowman, Joel and Bernadine Branchaw. 1992. How to Write Proposals That Produce. Phoenix, AZ: Oryz Press. (On reserve)

(Some Useful websites)

SSRC: <http://programs.ssrc.org/dpdf/>

Fulbright: <http://fulbright.state.gov/root/resources-for/students>

Einaudi Center : <http://www.einaudi.cornell.edu/funding/grad.asp>

Foundations: <http://fdncenter.org>

Government: NSF: <http://nsf.gov/>

Dept of Ed.: <http://ed.gov>

Fedix (Federal funds): <http://www.sciencewise.com/fedix/>

SPIN (international) <http://www.infoed.org/wConnect/wc.dll?spinwww%7Ejumpspin>

IRIS : <http://carousel.lis.uiuc.edu/~iris/search.html>

Oct 7 Class Discussion – Literature Review (Oct 6 1 pg lit review and conceptual map due)

Oct. 9 Choosing Strategy of Inquiry

Strategy of Inquiry: Qualitative or Quantitative

Axinn, William and Lisa Pearce, (2006) *Mixed Method Data Collection Strategies*, Cambridge, Univ Press, NY, NY Chapter 2 "Fitting Data Collection Methods to Research Aims," pp 28-53.

Creswell, Chapter 9 A quantitative method pp 153-178

Chapter 10 A qualitative procedure pp. 179-207

Chapter 11 Combined qualitative and quantitative designs pp. 208-227

Recommended

Tashakkori, Abbas, and Teddlie, Charles. 1998.

Chapter 3 Pp. 40-58 "Research design issues for mixed method and mixed model studies."

Chapter 5 Pp. 95-111 "Data collection strategies and research procedures.

Oct 16 Managing Data, Site Selection and Fieldwork Processes

Summaries Xin (M and H), Javier (M&R), Sung Won (G &G)

Managing Data

Miles and Huberman, Chapter 3, "Focusing and Bounding the Collection of Data: Further Design Issues.", Chapter 4 "Early Steps in Analysis."

Marshall, Catherine & Rossman, Gretchen B. 1999. Pp. 105-146 "Data collection methods."

Recommended

Lofland and Lofland, 1995, Chapter 5, "Logging Data."

Tashakkori, Abbas, and Teddlie, Charles. 1998. Chapters 7-9 Pp. 137-166 "Examples of mixed model designs" and "Extended examples of mixed model designs." – Some examples of research designs.

Marshall, Catherine and Rossman, Gretchen B. 1999. Designing Qualitative Research (3rd edition). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications. Pp. 167-189 "Chapter 6: Planning time and Resources".

Initial Field Reconnaissance

Gaber and Gaber, Chapter 2 "Field Research"

Sampling

Miller, Delbert C. and Salkind, Neil J. 2002. Handbook of Research Design and Social Measurement (6th edition). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications. 51-56 ("Sampling").

Recommended

Tashakkori, Abbas and Charles Teddlie. 1998. Pp.61-94 "Sampling, measurement, and quality of inference."

Miller, Delbert C. and Salkind, Neil J. 2002. Handbook of Research Design and Social Measurement (6th edition). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications. 51-56 ("Sampling").

Bouma, Gary D. and G.B.J. Atkinson, 1995. "Selecting a Sample," A Handbook of Social Science Research, Oxford University Press: New York, pp. 137-163.

Managing Overseas Research (Recommended)

Each student choose a chapter from the following to discuss.

Devereux, Stephen. (1993). *Fieldwork in developing countries*. Boulder, Colo.: L. Rienner.

Recommended

Site Selection

Lofland and Lofland, 1995, Chapter 2 "Evaluating Data Sites." Chapter 3. "Getting In."
Chapter 4. "Getting along."

Oct 21 Group Discussion

Assignment Due Oct 20: Beginning Methodology Section 3 pages

Group 1 Xin, Javier, Sung Won, Ji Won

Group 2 Peter, Doug, Andy, Xiaoling

Group 3 Isabelle, Leslie, Maite, Myriam, Kate

Oct 23 Data Collection Methods - Archives Published Data

Discussion Leaders: Myriam (Hill) Andy (Gaber and Gaber), Peter, Kate

Archival Research

Hill, Michael. 1993. Archival Strategies and Techniques. Thousand Oaks CA: Sage Publications. Browse. Read pages 58 - 63. Strategies for Organizing Archival Data.

Gaber, John and Gaber, Sharon (2007). *Qualitative Analysis for Planning and Policy: Beyond the Numbers*, Planners Press APA Washington, DC.
Chapter 5. "Content Analysis and Meta-Analysis"

Faculty Resource: Pierre Clavel www.crp.cornell.edu/resources/pcnp

Oct 28 Data Collection Methods - Published Data

Assignment: Provide list of sources you will use, how you will obtain access, data definitions relevant to published data

Discussion Leaders: Xin, JiWon, Sung Won, Javier, Xiaoling

Census Data:

Browse: Miller, Delbert C. and Salkind, Neil J. 2002. Handbook of Research Design and Social Measurement. Pp. 204-284. – Journal in social research; excellent information about sources of published data.

Oct 30-31 Assignment Due in Class or in my box – hard copy: Revised Concept Paper and Preliminary Literature Review (6-10 double spaced pages, 10-20 cites). Print this and bring it. Do not load to Blackboard

Oct 30 Data Collection Methods – Interviews

Assignment: Bring in Interview Guide for Review

Discussion Leaders Doug (Patton), Maite (Patton), Isabelle, Lesli, Xiaoling

Interviews:

Patton, Michael 1990. Qualitative Interviewing. pp 277-359 in *Qualitative Evaluation and Research Methods* Sage: London.

Recommended

Yow, Valere Raleigh. 2005. *Recording Oral History: A Guide for the Humanities and Social Sciences*. Second edition. New York: Altamira Press. Chapter 3 “Preparation for the interviewing project” (pp. 68-91) and Chapter 4 “Interviewing techniques” (pp. 92-120). Also, browse Appendices A – K (pp. 335-381) for samples of interview guides and other tools.

Fontana, Andrea, & Frey, James. 1994. "Interviewing: The Art of Science." Pp361-376 in *Handbook of Qualitative Research* ed. by Norman Denzin and Yvonna Lincoln. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Lofland and Lofland. 1995. Chapter 7 “Asking Questions” (pp. 123-148).

Weiss, Robert. 1994. *Learning from Strangers: The Art and Method of Qualitative Interview Guides*. New York: Free Press.

- Chapter 1-2: Overview;
- Chapter 3: Preparing the interview guide;
- Chapter 4-5: Interviewing experience

Rubin, H.J. & Rubin, I.S. (1995). *Qualitative Interviewing: The Art of Hearing Data*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Nov 4 Data Collection Methods - Survey

Assignment: Bring in survey instrument for review

Discussion Leaders: Maite, Javier, Xiaoling

Summaries: Xiaoling (Dillman), Online Survey Tools (SungWon), Problems (Kate)

Dillman, D. 2000. *Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design Method* (2nd edition). NY: John Wiley & Sons. Chapter 1 “Social Exchange Motivation,” Chapter 2 “Nineteen Rules for Question Writing,”

Review: Creswell, John W. 2003. Chapter 9: pp. 153-162.

Check out internet survey sites: zoomerang, <http://info.zoomerang.com/>
surveymonkey <http://www.surveymonkey.com/>

Possible Guest Speaker: Yasamin Miller, Survey Research Facility

Recommended readings

Miller, Delbert C. and Salkind, Neil J. 2002. *Handbook of Research Design and Social Measurement*. Pp. 297-319 – on Guides for construction of questionnaires, selection and uses of personal interview surveys, telephone surveys, and mail questionnaire surveys.

Braverman, Marc T. 1996. "Sources of survey error: Implications for evaluation studies." New directions on Evaluation. 70: 17-28.

Mangione, T. 1998. "Mail surveys." Pp 399-427 in the Handbook of Applied Social Research. Edited by L. Bickman and D. Rog. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Lavrakas, P. 1998. "Methods for sampling and interviewing in telephone surveys." Pp. 429-472. in the Handbook of Applied Social Research.

Fowler, F. 1998. "Design and evaluation of survey questions." Pp. 343-374 in the Handbook of Applied Social Research.

PAM 604 Syllabus

Dillman, Don A., Roberta L. Sangster, John Tarnai, and Todd Rockwood. 1996. "Understanding Differences in People's Answers to Telephone and Mail Surveys." In Braverman, Marc T. and Jana Kay Slater (eds.), Current Issues in Survey Research, New Directions for Program Evaluation Series, Chapter 4:45-62. Jossey-Bass: San Francisco.

Nov 6 Strategies of Analysis: Qualitative and Quantitative

Guest Speaker: Ann Forsyth on managing a large scale research process

Focus Groups: No discussion of this topic – read on your own if interested

Discussion Leads: Isabel, Lesli

Assignment: Bring in Focus Group Plan for group discussion

Gaber and Gaber, Chapter 4 "Focus Group Research"

or

Morgan, David, L. 1997. Focus Groups as Qualitative Research. Second edition. Qualitative Research Methods Series, Vol 16. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Recommended

Krueger, Richard A. & Casey, Mary Anne. 2000. Focus Groups: A Practical Guide for Applied Research. Third edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. – An easy reading on designing and conducting focus groups.

Nov 11 and 13 Data Collection Methods - Case Studies

Discussion Leaders: Everyone.

Assignment: Bring Case Study Research Plan for Group Discussion

Summaries: Yin 1 and 6 Maite, Yin 2 Xin, Yin 3 Ji Won, Yin 4 Peter, Yin 5 SungWon. This is Yin the book, not the article.

Yin, Robert K. "An Abridged Version of Case Study Research" in L. Bickman and D.J. Rog, eds., *Handbook of Applied Social Research Methods*, Thousand Oaks: Sage, 1998: pp. 229-59.

Other Recommended Readings

Yin, Robert K. (2003). *Case study research: Design and methods* (Applied social research methods series (v.5). Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage Publications. (or 1994 version)

Stake, Robert E. 2005. "Qualitative case studies." Pp. 443-466. In *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research* (third edition). Edited by N. Denzin and Y.S. Lincoln.

Nov 18 Strategies of Analysis: Quantitative

Come with your question outlined so Françoise can help with analysis ideas

Quick Review of Major Alternatives

Statistical Analysis of Quantitative Data: simultaneity, categorical, data reduction, uneven panels, nested data, autocorrelation in space or over time

Guest Speaker: Françoise Vermelyen *Isabelle to bring her over*

Nov 20 Strategies of Analysis: Qualitative

Discussion Leaders: Myriam-coding, Isabelle Q Methodology, Andy Zotero, Lesli Life History Analysis

Summary of M&H Kate

Miles and Huberman. 1994. Read Chapter 10 p 245-287 and Appendix pp 311-317 for software to conduct qualitative analysis.

Guest Speakers: Experienced students to talk about problems managing qualitative data.

Recommended readings

Lofland and Lofland. 1995. Chapter 9 "Developing analysis" (p. 181-203).

Miles and Huberman. 1994. Chapters 5-9 on Techniques for qualitative data analysis. Strongly recommended for those planning to do qualitative data analysis. Also review

Huberman, A. Michael and Matthew Miles. 1994. "Data Management and Analysis Methods." Pp 428-445 in *Handbook of Qualitative Research* ed. by Norman Denzin and Yvonna Lincoln. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Denzin, Norman. 1994. "The Art and Politics of Interpretation." Pp. 500-515 in *Handbook of Qualitative Research* ed. by Norman Denzin and Yvonna Lincoln. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Tashakkori, Abbas and Charles Teddlie. 1998. "Alternatives to Traditional Data Analytic Strategies" Chapter 6 (pp112-136) in Mixed Methodology: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Software for qualitative research, <http://www.audiencedialogue.org/soft-qual.html>

NUD*IST4 is probably the most used software for qualitative research.

<http://www.qsr.com.au/>

CISER supports Atlas-Ti

<http://www.atlasti.com/>

Assignment: Revised Methodology Section Due Nov 24 by 10 am or earlier.

Nov 25 Group Discussion Methodology Plans

Writing - Read on your own

Creswell, Chapter 3 “Writing Strategies” pp 49- 70.

Przeworski, Adam and Frank Salomon, 2004. The Art of Writing Proposals: Some Candid Suggestions for Applicants to Social Science Research Council Competitions. SSRC. http://fellowships.ssrc.org/art_of_writing_proposals/printable.html

Recommended

Miles and Huberman, Chapter 12, "Producing Reports."

Richardson, Laurel. 1994. "Writing: A Method of Inquiry." Pp 516-529 in Handbook of Qualitative Research ed. by Norman Denzin and Yvonna Lincoln. Thousand Oaks: Sage

Dissertation Proposal Workshop website at Berkeley has some useful information, including timelines for the entire dissertation process!

<http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/DissPropWorkshop/>

Lofland and Lofland, Chapter 10, "Writing Reports."

Dec 2 and 4 Present Final Proposals

Assignment: Outline of Proposal or ppt – Present 5 minutes, Discussion 5 minutes

Dec 15 Final Proposals Due by noon

Hand in Hard copy to my office or my mail box.