DPLS 726 Advanced Qualitative Research

Spring 2010 3 Credits

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*Note Prerequisites
DPLS 720 - Principles of Research
DPLS 723 - Qualitative Research Theory & Design

Building upon the knowledge and experience acquired in DPLS 723, this course provides students with structured opportunities to analyze, interpret, and report qualitative research, using data they have generated themselves. This course continues on training in qualitative fieldwork methods in social science settings, specifically observation, interviewing, and document analysis. While some attention will be given to fieldwork, the primary focus will be on various issues in contemporary procedures and theories of interpretation, including coding and categorizing, grounded theorizing, narrative analysis, discourse analysis, and the politics of representation.

Specific objectives include:

- Identify the tasks and processes required to select pertinent data sources, data collection methods, and data analysis methods, and to assess the results of such efforts.
- Examine ethical dilemmas and issues related to the research process.
- Discuss the role and importance of reflexivity in the process of analysis.
- Recognize exemplars of qualitative research derived from varying approaches and traditions, identify the goals and presuppositions of these different exemplars, and critically assess the designs for their accomplishment of specified research goals.
- Formulate ways to compare and contrast different approaches to human inquiry: positivist, post-positivist, critical, feminist, postmodern, and others; identify the origins and developments of these varying approaches, the underlying values and assumptions, and their strengths and limitations.
- Code, categorize and write up an array of qualitative data, experimenting with various narrative strategies in this process, including tables, graphs and charts
- Experiment with theoretical framing of data
- Identify and position yourself as researcher regarding various issues in contemporary procedures and theories of interpretation
- develop the section on data analysis for the dissertation.

Required Texts


**Recommended Texts:**


Additional Readings as Posted on Blackboard