



Research Design in Qualitative Analysis

Pepper Culpepper and Donatella della Porta

Seminar Winter 2011

Credits: 20

Second Term

Mondays, 15:00 – 17:00 p.m., Seminar room 2, Badia Fiesolana

Registration with Monika Rzemieniecka (monika.rzemieniecka@eui.eu)

Description

The seminar takes us from the general questions about approaches in the social sciences covered in the Core Methods Seminar into practical issues of how to design a research project. It is aimed at researchers using qualitative methods in the broadest sense. We start off asking about the different questions that might be asked and what are the implications for choice of methods. Then we follow through the steps in research design.

Before the end of the first term, those choosing this seminar should send a one-page abstract of their research project. This will allow us to tailor the seminar to the needs of the participants. Suggestions as to other topics we might cover will be very welcome!

January 10, 2010

Research design and qualitative methods: Theory Driven versus Field Driven

Mahoney, James, and Gary Goertz, “A Tale of Two Cultures: Contrasting Quantitative and Qualitative Research”, *Political Analysis* 14, 2006, 227-249.

Gerring, John, *Social Science Methodology. A Criterial Framework*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, Chapter 5 and 10.

Glaser, Barney and Anselm Strauss, *The Discovery of Grounded Theory: Strategies for Qualitative Research*, Aldine Transaction, 1999, pp. 1-43.

Eliasoph, Nina and Paul Lichterman.. “We Begin with Our Favorite Theory...’: Reconstructing the Extended Case Method.” *Sociological Theory* 17,1999: 228-234.



January 17, 2010

Case Studies and How We Learn from Them

Rueschemeyer, Dietrich, “Can One or a Few Cases Yield Theoretical Gains”, in James Mahoney and Dietrich Rueschenmeyer (eds.), *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*, New York, Cambridge University Press, 2003, pp. 305-336.

Timothy McKeown, “Case Studies and the Limits of the Quantitative Worldview.” In Henry E. Brady and David Collier (eds.), *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools and Shared Standards*. Lanham, MD: Roman and Littlefield, 2004, pp. 139-167.

January 24, 2010

Process Tracing and Systematic Process Analysis

George, Alexander L., “Case Studies and Theory Development: The Method of Structured, Focused Comparison,” in Paul Gordon Lauren, ed., *Diplomacy. New Approaches in History, Theory, and Policy*, New York: The Free Press, 1979. Pp. 43-68.

Hall, Peter, “Aligning Ontology and Methodology in Comparative Politics.” In J. Mahoney and D. Rueschemeyer (eds.). *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*. New York, Cambridge University Press, 2003, pp. 373-404.

James Mahoney, “Nominal, Ordinal, and Narrative Appraisal in Macrocausal Analysis,” *American Journal of Sociology* 104: 4 (January 1999): 1154–96.

January 31, 2010.

Interview types: in depth interviews, life histories and focus groups

Blee, Kathleen M. and Verta Taylor, “Semi-Structured Interviewing in Social Movement Research”, in Bert Klandermans and Suzanne Staggenborg (eds), *Methods of Social Movement Research*, Minneapolis, the University of Minnesota Press, 2002, pp. 92-117.

Della Porta, Donatella, “Life Histories Analysis of Social Movement Activists”, in M. Diani e R. Eyerman (eds.), *Studying Social Movements*, London, Sage, 1992, pp. 168-193.

Della Porta, Donatella, “Multiple Belongings, Tolerant Identities, and the Construction of ‘Another Politics’: Between the European Social Forum and the Local Social Fora.” in D. della Porta and S. Tarrow *Transnational Protest and Global Activism*, , Lanham, UK: Rowman & Littlefield, 2005, pp. 175-202

February 7, 2010

Interviewing: What and How

Weiss, Robert, *Learning from Strangers*, New York, Free Press, 1994, chapter 4.

Holstein, James A. and Jaber F. Gubrium, “Active Interviewing”, in D. Wenberg (ed.), *Qualitative Research Methods*, Oxford, Blackwell, pp. 112-126.

Seale, Clive, “Qualitative Interviewing”, in Clive Seale (eds.), *Researching Society and Culture*, London, Sage, 1998, 202-216.



February 14, 2010

Ethnography and How We Learn From It

Agrosini, Michael V. and Kimberly A. Mays de Pérez, “Rethinking Observation: From Method to Context”, in N.K. Denzin and Y.S. Lincoln (eds.), *Collecting and Interpreting Qualitative Materials*, Sage Publication, 2003.

Marcus, George E. 1995 “Ethnography in/of the World System: The Emergence of Multi-Sited Ethnography.” *Annual Review of Anthropology* 24: 95-117.

Kathryn Edin and Maria Kefalas, *Promises I can keep: Why Poor Women put Motherhood before Marriage*, University of California Press, 2005, Introduction (pp. 1-26) and Appendices A and B (pp. 225-247).

February 21, 2010

Analyzing text

Adcock, Robert and David Collier, “Measurement Validity: A Shared Standard for Qualitative and Quantitative Research”, in *American Political Science Review*, 95, 2001, pp. 529-545.

Tonkiss, Fran, “Analyzing discourse”, in Clive Seale (eds.), *Researching Society and Culture*, London, Sage, 1998, 245-250.

Culpepper, Pepper D., Chapter 4 of *Quiet Politics and Business Power: Corporate Control in Europe and Japan*, Cambridge University Press 2011, pp. 82-114 (pay particular attention to the section on “The Framing of Hostile Takeover Politics in the Netherlands” and to the appendix to the chapter.

Suggested Reading: Heike Klüver, “Measuring Interest Group Influence Using Quantitative Text Analysis,” *European Union Politics* 10(4): 535-549.

February 28, 2010

Triangulating methods

Lieberman, Robert, “Nested Analysis as a Mixed Method Strategy for Comparative Research”, *American Political Science Review*, 99, 2005, 435-52.

Flyvbjerg, Bent, “A Perestroika Straw Man Answers Back: David Latin and Phronetic Political Science”, in Brian Caterino and Sanford F. Schram (eds.), *Making Political Science Matter*, New York, New York University Press, 2006, pp. 56-85.

Tarrow, Sidney, “Bridging the Quantitative-Qualitative divide”, in Brady, Henry E. and David Collier (eds.), *Rethinking Social Inquiry. Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*, Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2004, pp. 21-50.



March 7, 2010

Writing qualitative research...or a prospectus

McCracken, Grant, *The Long Interview*, London, Sage; 1988, pp. 53-58.

Gerardo Munck and Richard Snyder, *Passion, Craft and Method in Comparative Politics*, 2007, pp. 370-371 (James Scott on writing).

Peter A. Hall, "Helpful Hints for Writing Dissertations in Comparative Politics," *PS: Political Science and Politics* 23 (4): 596-598, December 1990.

Jonathan Kirshner, "Alfred Hitchcock and the Art of Research," *PS: Political Science and Politics* 29 (3): 511-513, September 1996.

March 14, 2010

Ethical issues in qualitative research

Punch, M., 1994, "Politics and Ethics in Qualitative Research", in N.K. Denzin and Y.S. Lincoln (eds), *Handbook of Qualitative Research*, London, Sage.

Steinmetz, George. 2004. "The Uncontrollable Afterlives of Ethnography: Lessons from 'Savage Colonialism' in the German Overseas Empire." *Ethnography* 5: 251-288.

Bourdieu: La sociologie est un sport de combat, movie (a short part, i