



Research Design in Qualitative Analysis: Interviews & text analysis

Pepper Culpepper and Donatella della Porta

Credits: 20

Second Term

Mondays, 3-5, Badia Seminar room 2

Please register with 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!

Session 1. January 11, 2010, Qualitative Analysis and Epistemological Choices

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

Schwandt, Thomas A., "Three Epistemological Stances for Qualitative Inquiry: Interpretivism, Hermeneutic and Social Constructionism", in N.K. Denzin and Y.S. Lincoln (eds), *Handbook of Qualitative Research*, London, Sage, pp. 189-213.

Steinmetz, George, "Positivism and Its Others in the Social Sciences, in George Steinmetz (ed.), *The Politics of Method in the Human Sciences. Positivism and its Epistemological Others*, Durham/London, Duke University Press, 2005, pp. 1-57.



Session 2. January 18, 2010, Research design and qualitative methods: Theory Driven versus Field Driven

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

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

Session 3. January 25, 2010, Case studies and case selection in qualitative research

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

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.

Rueschenmeyer, Dietrich, 2003, "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, pp. 305-336.

Session 4. February 1, 2010. Interview types: in depth interviews, life histories and focus groups

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

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.

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

Bloor, Michael, Jane Frankland, Michelle Thomas and Kate Robson, *Focus Groups in Social Research*, London, Sage, 2001, pp. 19-72



Session 5. February 8, 2010. Entering the Field/Observing the Field

Lichterman, Paul, "Seeing Structure Happen: Theory-Driven Participant Observation", in Bert Klandermans and Suzanne Staggenborg (eds), *Methods of Social Movement Research*, Minneapolis, the University of Minnesota Press, 2002, pp. 118-145.

Whyte, William F., "Appendix", in *Street Corner Society*, Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1961, pp. 259-378.

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.

Session 6. February 15, 2010. What to ask; How to ask

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.

Session 7. FRIDAY, February 19, 2010. Analyzing text – extra session

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.

Altheide, D.L. and J.M. Johnson, "Criteria for Assessing Interpretative Validity in Qualitative Research", in N.K. Denzin and Y.S. Lincoln (eds.), *Collecting and Interpreting Qualitative Materials*, Sage Publication, 2003

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

Session 8. February 22, 2010, Writing qualitative research

McCracken, Grant, *The Long Interview*, London, Sage; 1988, Chapters 3 and 5.

Maxwell, Joseph A., "Understanding and Validity in Qualitative Research", *Harvard Education Review*, 62, 1992, pp. 279-300.

Kvale, Steinar, 1996, *The Interviews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research*, Thousand Oaks, Sage, 1996, chapter 12, pp. 210-228.



Session 9. March 1, 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.

Session 10. FRIDAY, March 5, 2010. Ethical issue in qualitative research – extra session

Bourdieu: La sociologie est un sport de combat, movie (in English).

Flyvbjerg, Bent, *Making Social Science Matter*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2001, chapters 5 and 6, pp. 54-87.

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