PhD Course for social science candidates. University of Bergen, April 27-30 2009

Mixing Methods in Social Science Research

Course description:

The course focuses on several different aspects of mixed methods research in the social sciences. Topics that will be discussed include: considerations and rationales for making use of more than one data source or method of data collection; designing mixed methods studies; and ways of integrating data at the analysis stage. Epistemological and methodological issues in combining methods are approached from different viewpoints. In addition, new developments in mixed methods research and issues around quality criteria in assessing mixed methods studies are examined. Participants are invited to present and discuss papers about methodological issues related to their own studies. All the lecturers will take part during the whole course and will give feedback to candidates’ papers in group sessions. Candidates who submit their papers for approval by June 15th will get 10 credits for full course participation and an approved paper. The reading list is approximately 800 pages. A compendium will be available at the Department of Sociology in March. Lunch and one dinner are included in the course. The deadline for registration for the course is March 1\textsuperscript{st}. Candidates enrolled in a PhD-Programme are given priority. Deadline for submission of abstract is April 2\textsuperscript{nd}.

Registration

Register by email to Siv.Midthassel@isp.uib.no. Please include your full name, your institution affiliation and whether you are enrolled in a PhD-Programme. Please also indicate whether you will present a paper and if so, a preliminary title of your paper. We also need to know whether you will join us for dinner on Monday 27\textsuperscript{th} of April.

Adm. Contactperson/Registration: Siv Midthassel (siv.midthassel@isp.uib.no)
Academic Contactperson: Ann Nilsen (ann.nilsen@sos.uib.no)

Lecturers at the course:

Julia Brannen is Professor of Sociology of the Family in the Institute of Education, University of London and Adjunct Professor at the University of Bergen, Norway. She has written on methodological issues including: \textit{Mixing Methods: Qualitative and quantitative research} (1992 Gower) and \textit{The Handbook of Social Research} (Sage in press 2008) and is a contributor on this topic to Seale et al \textit{(Qualitative Research in Practice} 2004 Sage). Her interests also extend to biographical research methods and comparative cross national methods. She is a co-founder and co-editor of the \textit{International Journal of Social Research Methodology: Theory and practice} (Website: \texttt{www.tandf.co.uk}). Her substantive research focuses on families, the relation between paid work and family life and intergenerational relations. Her most recent book is Lewis, S, Brannen, J and Nilsen, A (2009 in press) \textit{Work, Families and Organisations in Transition: European Perspectives} Bristol: Policy Press

Alan Bryman is Professor of Organisational and Social Research in and Head of the School of Management, University of Leicester, England. His main research interests lie in research methodology, leadership studies, organizational analysis, the process of Disneyization, and theme parks. He is author or co-author of many books, including \textit{Quantity and Quality in Social Research}
Jo Moran-Ellis is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at the University of Surrey. Her research interests are primarily in the areas of childhood studies, research methods, and research governance, with an especial interest in the use of mixed and multiple methods. Her recent projects include a reflexive methodological study looking at integrating methods, public attitudes towards research governance, and research into children and sleep. She is currently Head of the Department of Sociology.


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**Course Programme**

**Monday April 27th**

09.30-10.15 Registration, coffee  
10.15-12.00 Considerations in choice of methods and typical examples of combining methods  
*Prof. Julia Brannen*  
12.00-13.15 **Lunch**  
13.15-15.00 Developments in mixed methods research  
*Prof. Alan Bryman*  
15.15-17.00 Group seminars and paper presentations  
19.30 **Dinner**

**Tuesday April 28th**

10.15-12.00 Triangulation and integration - thinking about the relationship between methods in multi-method research  
*Prof. Jo Moran-Ellis*
12.00-13.15 Lunch
13.15-15.00 An iterative research strategy; a particular example of a mixed method study
    Prof. Julia Brannen
15.15-17.00 Group seminars and paper presentations

Wednesday April 29th
10.15-12.00 Using more than one method - thinking practically
    Prof. Jo Moran-Ellis
12.00-13.00 Lunch
13.15-15.00 Combining questionnaires and biographical interviews: reflections on theoretical and practical implications
    Prof. Ann Nilsen
15.15-17.00 Group seminars and paper presentations

Thursday April 30th
10.15-12.00 Quality Criteria and Mixed Methods Research.
    Prof. Alan Bryman
12.00-13.00 Lunch
13.00-15.00 Plenary discussion
Mixed Methods: readings 2009


Bergman, Manfred Max (ed). 2008 Advances in mixed methods research : theories and applications. London Sage 192 pp


Brannen, Julia (ed) 1995 Mixing methods: qualitative and quantitative research. Aldershot: Avebury 175 pp


Dicks, B., Soyinka, B., and Coffey, A. ‘Multimodal ethnography’ Qualitative Research 6(1): 77-96


http://www.qualitative-research.net/fqs/fqs-eng.htm


Moran-Ellis, J.; Alexander, V.D.; Cronin, A.; Dickinson, M.; Fielding, J.; Slaney, J. and Thomas,


O’Cathain, Alicia, Elizabeth Murphy1, Jon Nicholl The quality of mixed methods studies in health services research  


