

The Faculty of Psychology
University of Bergen
Module in the training programme for researchers

Elective PhD Methodology Course offered by the Graduate School of
Human Interaction and Growth (GHIG)

Qualitative methods for PhD: Advanced level course

2-13 September 2013

Course leader: Marguerite Daniel

Course assistant: Karen Marie Moland

Overview:

Qualitative researchers are frequently accused of conducting superficial data analysis that compromises the quality of their research. When returning from the field with masses of data, the research student may be overwhelmed by the task of having to analyse the data without the necessary skills and guidance to do so. This course introduces the terminology of analysis and the basic procedure for inductive qualitative analysis. Two methods, namely **thematic network analysis** (inductive) and **framework analysis** (deductive) will be demonstrated systematically and followed with hands-on workshop-style activities. Participants will also have the opportunity to apply one method to their own data and validate coding techniques in groups. There will be instruction in Nvivo (computer-assisted software for analysing qualitative data), but this workshop will be voluntary for those who wish to use it in their own analysis. The course also covers reflection on research design, issues of validity, reliability and generalizability in qualitative research as well as the role of the researcher and fieldwork challenges. Finally there will be writing workshops on how to write the methodology section of articles and the thesis.

Objectives:

This course seeks to promote and facilitate the rigorous, systematic and in-depth analysis of qualitative data; in addition, the course demonstrates and guides the process of writing the methodology section for both the thesis and for articles.

Learning activities:

A large part of the course is conducted through guided workshops with hands-on application of analysis techniques. There will also be literature- and experience-based group work followed by group-led presentations and discussions.

Prerequisites:

Participants in the course must have

1. attended an introductory course on qualitative methods
2. transcribed data to work with on the course
3. downloaded Nvivo software onto their personal computer (if they wish to participate in the instruction and hands-on workshop on Nvivo on Fri 6 Sept 2013)

Course literature:

Copies of required and recommended literature will be placed on the MySpace site for the course. Participants will be expected to have read a large portion of the recommended literature before the course starts.

Preliminary time schedule:

- 12 August 2013 registration deadline
- 13 August 2013 course literature available on My Space
- 26 August 2013 submit 250 word summary of research project, objectives (research questions) and methodological approach
- 2-13 September – the course
- 31 October – deadline for written assignment (3000 words)

Language of instruction: English

Registration: Participants must register for the course by 12 August 2013. Maximum number of participants: 8

Assessment format: Written assignment

ECTs: 8

Course leader: Marguerite Daniel with assistance from Karen Marie Moland

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