

Studies in Population Medicine POPM*6950-02

Introduction to Qualitative Research

Winter 2012

Course Description

During this course, students will learn about and apply the theoretical and empirical assumptions informing a variety of qualitative methodologies, with the end-product consisting of a written research report arising from a qualitative research study conducted by the student. Students will learn how to design, conduct, analyse and write-up qualitative research associated with conducting one-on-one or focus group interviews. The major focus of the course will be on two kinds of qualitative analysis, grounded theory and thematic analysis, although students will be introduced to a broader array of qualitative methodologies.

Course Coordinator

Dr. Jason Coe

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Administrative Information

First Course Meeting: January 11, 2012 at 9:00 am

For questions regarding academic consideration, continuation of study, academic misconduct, safety, and confidentiality, please refer to the appropriate sections of the 2011-2012 Graduate Calendar (<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/>).

Course Objectives

At the completion of this course student will be able to:

- Describe the underlying theoretical and empirical assumptions associated with the use of various qualitative methodologies

- Design a study involving focus groups or one-on-one interviews
- Apply the qualitative method of grounded theory or thematic analysis to the examination and interpretation of qualitative data
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate qualitative findings effectively through written and oral means

Required Textbook

Mayan, M. (2009). *Essentials of Qualitative Inquiry*. Walnut Creek, CA: Left Coast Press Inc. Available at <http://www.lcoastpress.com/book.php?id=221>

Assignments and Evaluation

Student research involving human subjects in class-based projects require the completion of the Student Application to Involve Human Participants in Research. This is available online at <http://www.uoguelph.ca/research/forms/index.shtml> A completed, hard copy version of this application must accompany your research proposal.

Evaluations	% of Final Grade
Research Proposal	20%
Student Application to Involve Human Participants in Research	
Research Presentation and Data Session	30%
Final Research Report	50%