



Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2017
MI 645	Qualitative Research and Interviewing Methodology	Prerequisite:
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	N/A	Instructor:	Monetta Bailey, PhD	First day of classes:	Wed., Jan 4, 2017
Time:	N/A	Email:	mbailey@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan. 15, 2017
Room:	N/A	Phone:	X5901	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Mar. 6, 2017
Lab/ Tutorial:	N/A	Office:	L2091	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar. 17, 2017
		Office Hours:	Wednesday 1:00-2:00	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Mon, Mar. 29, 2017
Final Exam:	N/A			Last day of classes:	Tue, April 11, 2017

Course Description

This course provides a look at the philosophy behind qualitative research, looking at the positioning of the researcher and the research participants. We explore the various issues and challenges presented when conducting qualitative research, from conceptualizing the research question, to selecting participants, and gathering and analyzing evidence.

Expected Learning Outcomes

This course is intended to:

1. Expose students to an in-depth understanding of the theory and philosophy underlying qualitative research.
2. Provide an understanding of some of the challenges and issues faced by qualitative researchers
3. Introduce students to various practices of qualitative research, in particular the interviewing method.
4. Guide students to critically examine their roles as a qualitative researcher.

Textbook:

Braun V. & Clark V. 2013. Successful Qualitative Research: A Practical Guide for Beginners. Sage Publications

Additional readings available in the library.

Reading schedule:**Readings for January 27 discussion:**

- Chapter One: Some Very Important Starting Information
- Chapter Two: 10 Fundamentals of Qualitative Research
- Chapter Three: Planning and Designing Qualitative Research

Readings for February 17 discussion

- Chapter Four: Interactive Data Collection 1: Interviews
- Chapter Five: Interactive Data Collection 2: Focus Groups
- Chapter Six: Textual Data Collection: Surveys, Stories, Diaries and Secondary Sources

Readings for March 10 discussion

- Chapter Seven: Preparing Audio Data for Analysis: Transcription
- Chapter Eight: Moving Towards Analysis
- Chapter Nine: First Analytic Steps: Familiarization and Data Coding

Reading for March 31 discussion

- Chapter Ten: Identifying Patterns across Data
- Chapter Eleven: Analyzing and Interpreting Patterns Across Data
- Chapter Twelve: Quality Criteria and Techniques for Qualitative Research
- Chapter Thirteen: Writing and Communicating Qualitative Research

First readings: Response due Jan 24

bell hooks. 2004. Culture to culture: ethnography and cultural studies as critical intervention. In Approaches to qualitative research: a reader on theory and practice. Sharlene Hesse-Biber & Patricia Leave (eds) New York, NY: Oxford University Press

Virginia Oleson 2011. Feminist qualitative research in the millennium's first decade" developments, challenges, prospects in The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research 4th ed. Denzin, N. & Lincoln Y. (eds.). Los Angeles CA: Sage Publications, Inc.

Second readings: Response due Feb 14

William Miller and Benjamin Crabtree. 2004. Depth Interviewing. In Approaches to qualitative research: a reader on theory and practice. Sharlene Hesse-Biber & Patricia Leave (eds) New York, NY: Oxford University Press

Jaber F. Gubrium and James A. Holstein 2012. Narrative practice and the transformation of interview subjectivity. In The Sage handbook of interview research: the complexity of the craft. Jaber Gubrium (ed). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, Inc.

Third Reading: Response due March 7

Annika Lillrank 2012. Managing the interviewer self. In The Sage handbook of interview research: the complexity of the craft. Jaber Gubrium (ed). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, Inc.

Linda Finlay 2012. Five lenses for the reflexive interviewer. In The Sage handbook of interview research: the complexity of the craft. Jaber Gubrium (ed). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, Inc.

Fourth Reading: Response due March 28

Kay E. Cook 2012. Stigma and the interview encounter. In The Sage handbook of interview research: the complexity of the craft. Jaber Gubrium (ed). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, Inc.

Norman Denzin. 2011. The Politics of Evidence. The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research 4th ed. Denzin, N. & Lincoln Y. (eds.). Los Angeles CA: Sage Publications, Inc.

Requirements:

- 1. Discussion sessions: (20% of final grade):** The student will meet with the professor on the four assigned days from 1:00pm-4:00pm to discuss the readings covered in the time period. These discussions will include discussions of the assigned chapters in the text as well as discussions from the reading responses based on the assigned articles. The assigned meeting times are:
 - **Friday January 27**
 - **Friday February 17**
 - **Friday March 10**
 - **Friday March 31**
- 2. Reading response (40% of final grade):** The student will provide four reading responses to the assigned articles. These responses will require the student to engage with the material in an in-depth, thought provoking manner. The student will be expected to show reflection on the material, paying attention to the relevance of the material for his/her research agenda. Responses are due to the professor on the Tuesday immediately before the Friday meeting. Responses are to be uploaded via Moodle no later than midnight.
- 3. Research Paper (40% of final grade):** The student is asked to conduct two interviews on a topic chosen by the student. The student must have the topic approved by the professor no later than March 1. The student will be asked to write a 15-20 page paper consisting of: literature review, methodology, theory and analysis of interviews. The student is also required to submit the coded transcripts of the interviews along with the final paper. Assignments must be submitted via Moodle, Microsoft Word, double spaced, 1" (2.54cm) margins on all

sides, 12 point font, and ASA formatting (see links provided on Moodle and Johnson book on reserve). More details will be provided. Research paper is **due April 28**.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+ (96% and above)	
A (91-95%)	Excellent
A- (86-90%)	
B+ (82-85%)	
B (75-81%)	Good
B- (72-74%)	
C+ (68-71%)	
C (63-67%)	Satisfactory
C- (60-62%)	
D+ (56-59%)	
D (50-55%)	Minimal Pass
F (Below 50%)	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student

to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.