DOCTORAL SEMINAR ON
QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS

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Course Objectives:

Qualitative research methods are conducive to unexpected and profound discoveries about organizations, supply chains, and people therein. They can help discover novel insights and contextually-rich understanding of the phenomenon under investigation.

This seminar will address qualitative methods most commonly found in the literature—namely, case studies, action research, and ethnography. The students will have an opportunity to select a particular qualitative method and apply it to their own research project.

Course Requirements:

To satisfy course requirements, each student will:

1. Read all assigned articles carefully and analyze them with a critical lens;
2. Attend class and actively participate in class discussions;
3. Prepare and present the articles when called for; and
4. Select a qualitative research method and incorporate it into a research proposal.

Recommended Textbook


Class Participation

This involves two components: (1) daily contribution to class discussions and (2) serving as an article presenter. All students are expected to prepare the responses to following items for all assigned papers. The instructor will randomly call on a student to act as an article presenter.
When called upon, the student will present his/her responses to the first three items. We will then discuss the last item together as a group:

1. The motivations driving the article,
2. Details of the qualitative method adopted and the logic behind,
3. Evaluation of how well the method is executed, and
4. Integration with other articles assigned to date (i.e. how they fit together, what opposing or similar thoughts they promote, etc.).

Research Proposal

You will submit a research proposal toward the end of this seminar. The research proposal provides an opportunity for you to introduce a research question and review the literature that speaks to the research question— you are welcome to use questions and reviews you have done previously.

The bulk of your effort should be given to developing the methods. Choose a qualitative method or some combination thereof and justify why you have chosen that method. Discuss the sampling logic and data collection and analysis. Also, discuss the role of the existing literature with respect to your method.

The proposal does not have to be long (i.e., 5 pages, double-spaced), but it should develop a logic for why the proposed method makes sense and how you intend to collect and analyze data. Use subtitles whenever possible.

Grading:

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<td>Article Presentations</td>
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<td>Research Method Proposal</td>
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<td>Contribution to Class Discussions</td>
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TOPICS

Overview


Two articles from the editors:


**Case Studies**


**Action Research**


Ethnography


Use of Software

Atlas ti 6.0 (www.atlasti.com);
HyperRESEARCH 2.8 (www.researchware.com);
Max QDA (www.maxqda.com);
Ethnograph 6.0 (https://ethnograph.software.informer.com/6.0/);
QSR N6 (www.qsrinternational.com);
QSR Nvivo (www.qsrinternational.com);
Weft QDA (www.pressure.to/qda);
Open code 3.6 (https://opencode.software.informer.com/3.6/)

Unpublished manuscript of “Inter-Rater Reliability Methods for OM Researchers: A Missing Link in Qualitative Research between Data Gathering and Analysis” and unpublished review