

IK Qualitative Forschungsmethoden

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What the course is about:

Participants learn about the basic principles of Qualitative Research in the social sciences. They also get to know several methods of data collection such as interviews, focus groups, (participatory) observation and media analysis. The main topics of the course are:

- General principles of Qualitative and Quantitative social research
- Qualitative research designs
- Expert interviews
- (Qualitative) Content Analysis
- Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis (CAQDAS)
- Discursive approaches (“Big Q Methods”)

Grading:

For a grade, participants can either do a small-scale Qualitative study (e.g. a small interview study or media analysis) in groups of two or three; alternatively, participants can also write a seminar paper (usually in solitary work), which is supposed to be in some way related to certain contents of the course. Both, the small-scale studies and the seminar papers, can be related to the participants’ dissertation projects. In both cases, participants give a presentation on their projects/their papers at the second seminar block in June and submit a research report/seminar paper until the end of the following semester holidays.

Agenda:

- At the first seminar block in April, the instructor will present the basic principles of qualitative research. Non German speaking students do not have to attend the first seminar block, but have to study the English language text at the Moodle Course Support instead.
- At the second seminar block in June, the participants give a presentation on their respective small-scale research projects or seminar papers. Of course, the projects/papers do not have to be completed by then. Often participants present something like an elaborated sketch of their seminar projects. English speaking students have to give a presentation as well.

Recommended textbooks:

Bauer, M.W. & Gaskell, G. (Eds). (2000) *Qualitative researching with text, image and sound*. London: Sage.

Flick, U. (1995/2007). *Qualitative Sozialforschung – Eine Einführung (vollständig überarbeitete und erweiterte Neuausgabe)*. Hamburg: Rowohlt.

Mayring, P. (1990/2002). *Einführung in die qualitative Sozialforschung (5. Auflage)*. Beltz: Weinheim.

Mayring, P. (1983/2003). *Qualitative Inhaltsanalyse: Grundlagen und Techniken (8. Auflage)*. Beltz: Weinheim.

Willig, C. (2003/2008). *Introducing qualitative research in psychology (2nd edition)*. London: Open University Press.

For each topic, you can find German language as well as English language texts at JKU's Moodle Course Support (<https://moodle.jku.at/jku2012/>; registration key: qm2014). There you can also find several further readings. The slides of the seminar sessions in April and of the participants' presentations will be published here as well.