

Syllabus

Course Description

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| Course Title | Qualitative Research Methods |
| Course Code | 64218 |
| Course Title Additional | |
| Scientific-Disciplinary Sector | M-PED/01 |
| Language | German |
| Degree Course | Bachelor for Social Education |
| Other Degree Courses (Loaned) | |
| Lecturers | <p>Prof. Dr. Iris Nentwig-Gesemann, Iris.NentwigGesemann@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/41498</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Barbara Gross, Barbara.Gross@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/35122</p> |
| Teaching Assistant | |
| Semester | Second semester |
| Course Year/s | 1 |
| CP | 7 |
| Teaching Hours | 30 |
| Lab Hours | 20 |
| Individual Study Hours | 125 |
| Planned Office Hours | 18 |
| Contents Summary | <p>The students acquire fundamental theoretical-methodological and practical-methodical knowledge in qualitative educational and social research. The course covers methods of empirical data collection as well as various approaches to analysis and interpretation. These methods are not only introduced, but also practically applied by the students. The selection of methods is guided by their relevance to the professional practice of social</p> |

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| | educators. In addition, students train to read empirical studies and critically assess their quality, to take research ethics standards into account, to engage in well-founded methodological reflection, and to develop their own research design. |
| Course Topics | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Methodological Foundations (e.g., praxeological sociology of knowledge, phenomenology, ethnomethodology, social constructivism, biographical research) 2. Methods of Data Collection (e.g., group discussion, expert interview, narrative interview, paired interview, participant and video-based observation, image-based research methods, document analysis) 3. Methods of Data Analysis (e.g., documentary method, phenomenological vignette research, biographical/narrative analysis, ethnography, qualitative content analysis, grounded theory, image analysis) 4. Methodological Integration and Research Design (mixed-methods approaches, development of research designs) 5. Research Ethics and Quality Standards (ethical principles of research, standards and quality criteria in qualitative research) 6. Practice-Oriented Application (Research Workshop: practical testing of data collection and analysis methods using empirical data) |
| Keywords | Qualitative Social Research; Data Collection; Data Analysis; Research Ethics; Practice in Social Education |
| Recommended Prerequisites | / |
| Propaedeutic Courses | / |
| Teaching Format | Lectures combining discussions and collaborative workshop sessions; laboratory activities including instructor-led inputs, group work, research lab projects, and student presentations |
| Mandatory Attendance | In accordance with the regulation |
| Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes | <p>Knowledge and Understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students are familiar with fundamental theoretical and methodological concepts of qualitative educational and social research. - They possess broad knowledge of procedures for qualitative data collection and analysis. - They understand the significance of research ethics, quality criteria, and mixed-methods approaches in the context of social |

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| | <p>pedagogical research.</p> <p>Applying Knowledge and Understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students are able to independently apply selected methods of qualitative data collection and analysis in practice. - They can develop a research-oriented approach to investigate a specific social pedagogical research question. - They implement research-ethical standards in the planning and execution of their own empirical projects. <p>Judgement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students can critically assess the quality and significance of qualitative empirical studies. - They are able to compare different methodological approaches and evaluate their suitability in relation to specific social pedagogical research questions. - They reflect on methodological decisions with regard to theoretical, practical, and ethical considerations. <p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students can present and justify qualitative research findings in a way that is appropriate to the target audience. - They are able to clearly communicate methodological approaches, interpretations, and conclusions both in academic discourse and in practice-oriented contexts. <p>Learning Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students are capable of independently expanding their methodological repertoire and adapting it to new research contexts. - They can critically reflect on their own learning experiences in dealing with qualitative methods and develop strategies to further deepen their research competences. |
| Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.) | / |
| Assessment | Assessment is based on the development of a research portfolio throughout the module, complemented by a final oral examination |
| Evaluation Criteria | Research Portfolio: clarity, analytical depth, originality, theoretical |

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| | <p>relevance, source quality.</p> <p>Oral Examination: subject knowledge, presentation & argumentation skills, critical reflection, communication, connection to portfolio.</p> |
| Required Readings | <p>Creswell, J. W., & Plano Clark, V. (2018). Designing and conducting mixed methods research (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.</p> <p>Donlic, J., & Strasser, I. (Hrsg.). (2020). <i>Gegenstand und Methoden qualitativer Sozialforschung</i>. Barbara Budrich.</p> <p>Flick, U. (Hrsg.). (2015). <i>Qualitative Forschung: Ein Handbuch</i> (11. Aufl.). Rowohlt.</p> <p>Schiek, D. (2024). <i>Methoden der qualitativen Sozialforschung</i>. UTB.</p> |
| Supplementary Readings | Additional readings will be provided throughout the lecture and laboratory sessions |
| Further Information | / |
| Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) | Quality education |

Course Module

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| Course Constituent Title | Qualitative Methods in Educational and Social Research |
| Course Code | 64218A |
| Scientific-Disciplinary Sector | M-PED/01 |
| Language | German |
| Lecturers | <p>Prof. Dr. Barbara Gross, Barbara.Gross@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/35122</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Iris Nentwig-Gesemann, Iris.NentwigGesemann@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/41498</p> |
| Teaching Assistant | |
| Semester | |

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| CP | 5 |
| Responsible Lecturer | |
| Teaching Hours | 15 h - Nentwig-Gesemann Iris 15 h - Gross Barbara |
| Lab Hours | 0 |
| Individual Study Hours | 95 |
| Planned Office Hours | 15 |
| Contents Summary | In the lecture, students acquire fundamental theoretical and methodological knowledge in qualitative educational and social research. Key approaches, concepts, and methods of empirical data collection, as well as various procedures for data analysis and interpretation, are covered. Special attention is given to the relevance of these methods for practice-field of social education. In addition, research ethics, quality criteria, and methodological reflection are addressed to provide a solid understanding of qualitative research. |
| Course Topics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodological foundations of qualitative social and educational research - Methods of qualitative data collection - Methods of qualitative data analysis - Mixed-methods approaches - Research ethics and quality standards |
| Teaching Format | Lectures with discussions and group work phases |
| Required Readings | <p>Creswell, J. W., & Plano Clark, V. (2018). <i>Designing and conducting mixed methods research</i> (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.</p> <p>Donlic, J., & Strasser, I. (Hrsg.). (2020). <i>Gegenstand und Methoden qualitativer Sozialforschung</i>. Barbara Budrich.</p> <p>Flick, U. (Hrsg.). (2015). <i>Qualitative Forschung: Ein Handbuch</i> (11. Aufl.). Rowohlt.</p> <p>Schiek, D. (2024). <i>Methoden der qualitativen Sozialforschung</i>. UTB.</p> |
| Supplementary Readings | |

Course Module

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| Course Constituent Title | Qualitative Methods in Educational and Social Research (LAB) |
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| Course Code | 64218B |
| Scientific-Disciplinary Sector | M-PED/01 |
| Language | German |
| Lecturers | <p>Prof. Dr. Barbara Gross, Barbara.Gross@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/35122</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Iris Nentwig-Gesemann, Iris.NentwigGesemann@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/41498</p> |
| Teaching Assistant | |
| Semester | |
| CP | 2 |
| Responsible Lecturer | |
| Teaching Hours | 0 |
| Lab Hours | 10 h - Nentwig-Gesemann Iris 10 h - Gross Barbara |
| Individual Study Hours | 30 |
| Planned Office Hours | 6 |
| Contents Summary | <p>In the accompanying laboratory, students deepen the methods presented in the lecture and apply them in practical, exemplary exercises. They practice selected procedures of qualitative data collection (e.g., interviews, observations, document analysis) as well as data analysis and interpretation using empirical data. Additionally, they train to critically read and evaluate empirical studies, implement research ethics standards in practice, reflect on methodological decisions, and develop their own research designs.</p> |
| Course Topics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deepening the methodological and methodical foundations of the lecture - Critical reading and discussion of empirical studies - Practical application of data collection and analysis methods in mini research projects - Preparation of a research design for the bachelor's thesis |
| Teaching Format | Short inputs from lecturers, group work, and short student presentations |

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| Required Readings | <p>Creswell, J. W., & Plano Clark, V. (2018). <i>Designing and conducting mixed methods research</i> (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.</p> <p>Donlic, J., & Strasser, I. (Hrsg.). (2020). <i>Gegenstand und Methoden qualitativer Sozialforschung</i>. Barbara Budrich.</p> <p>Flick, U. (Hrsg.). (2015). <i>Qualitative Forschung: Ein Handbuch</i> (11. Aufl.). Rowohlt.</p> <p>Schiek, D. (2024). <i>Methoden der qualitativen Sozialforschung</i>. UTB.</p> |
| Supplementary Readings | <p>Additional readings will be provided during the laboratory sessions.</p> |