



Qualitative Multi-Method Research Initiative (QUAL)

WHAT IS QUAL?

QUAL is a UW-wide initiative launched in response to pressing demand for qualitative research design and methods training in the social sciences.

With the support of the Dean of the Division of Social Sciences, the goal of QUAL is to promote and systematize training in qualitative research methods and to build a community of qualitative multi-method researchers in and around UW.

QUAL aims to specifically advance the skillsets related to qualitative multi-methods that are useful for graduate students across all social science departments and the broader UW.

QUAL Steering Committee

Saadia Pekkanen, International Studies
Steve Pfaff, Sociology
James Pfeiffer, Global Health; Anthropology
Kirsten Foot, Communication
James Long, Political Science

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WHAT QUAL HAS TO OFFER

The Qualitative Multi-Method Research Initiative (QUAL):

BUILDS a community of social science graduate students, faculty, and experts in applied qualitative research from the university and beyond. QUAL connects these stakeholders through a **QUAL Speaker Series** aimed at engaging qualitative multi-method researchers and practitioners in a conversation.

TRAINS social science graduate students through UW qualitative-related courses and in qualitative software uses through **QUAL Workshops**. These hands-on workshops are free sessions designed to teach the basics of qualitative data analysis (QDA) software.

ADVANCES the qualitative multi-method research skills of graduate students interested in completing a **QUAL Concentration**.

QUAL Concentration

The QUAL Concentration is an optional track for UW graduate and doctoral students. It involves (1) taking part in the QUAL Workshops, (2) taking a minimum of three advanced courses at the 500 level in relevant research design and/or methods (minimum 9 credits), and (3) attending the QUAL Speaker Series.

Classes may be selected from pre-approved QUAL Courses Lists I and II, and at least one must be from List I. Students and their chair may petition the QUAL Steering Committee to substitute another course outside of List II. To learn more and apply, visit: depts.washington.edu/qual/concentration.

QUAL-RELATED COURSES 2016-17

COM 513 Fieldwork Research Methods | Autumn 2016

POLS 504 Designing Multi-Method Field Research | Winter 2017

JSIS 512 Qualitative Data Analysis | Winter 2017

SOC 555/JSIS 595/LAW B 554 Qualitative Case-Based Research Methods | Winter 2017

GEOG 525 Advanced Qualitative Methods in Geography | Winter 2017

COM 527 Global Communication Research Methods | Spring 2017

GH 538 Advanced Qualitative Research Methods in Public Health - Spring 2017

Current list of courses - The above is a projected courses list. For current information and syllabi, visit: depts.washington.edu/qual/courses

QUAL WORKSHOPS

QUAL Workshops are free, hands-on tutorials open to any UW graduate students interested in deepening their qualitative multi-method data analysis skills.

Instructor: Valentina Petrova

AUTUMN QUARTER 2016: Friday, Nov. 4, 2016, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in Savery 117.

SPRING QUARTER 2017: TBA

QUAL Workshops: Building a Research Question

- Introduction to QDA software
 - The QUAL Workshop tutorial begins with an introduction to qualitative data analysis (QDA) software and a hands-on exercise, starting a research project in ATLAS.ti with qualitative data provided by the instructor.
- Collecting and analyzing theories, claims, and hypotheses
 - Using the example project with data provided by the Instructor, workshop participants learn how QDA software could be used to code and annotate source documents for a literature review.
- Collecting and analyzing evidence
 - Participants practice adding "preliminary evidence" data to the project - including sample interviews, newspaper articles, website content, video and audio materials.
- Pulling together your research question
 - Finally, participants see how QDA software can help reveal connections between their literature readings and preliminary evidence data. The ultimate goal of the exercise is to arrive at a research question, situated in the literature and grounded in evidence.

CUSTOM QUAL WORKSHOPS

The Initiative offers custom QUAL Workshops taught upon request from UW faculty for their qualitative multi-method courses. To request a brief QDA workshop tutorial for their methods course, faculty members should reach out to Valentina Petrova at qual@uw.edu.



Sociology Professor and QUAL Steering Committee member Steve Pfaff talks to graduate students, faculty, and staff about his experience conducting key informant interviews on political Islam in Berlin.

QUAL SPEAKER SERIES

QUAL presents a series of talks to build a qualitative multi-method community and engage researchers and practitioners in a conversation. The UW QUAL Speaker Series is hosted by the Jackson School Ph.D. Program's Bridge Lab.

Talks are held 12:30 p.m. - 1:20 p.m. in Thomson 317. The 2016-17 schedule is available here: depts.washington.edu/qual/calendar.

To read the highlights and key takeaways from past talks, visit: depts.washington.edu/qual/category/qual-speaker-series.