



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
Gina Neff, Communication
James Long, Political Science

Contact:

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WHAT QUAL HAS TO OFFER

From its inaugural 2015-2016 school year, the Initiative will:

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

TRAIN social science graduate students through UW qualitative-related courses and in qualitative software uses through a series of hands-on **Workshop Tutorials**; this series of four tutorials (**QUAL Module**) are free sessions designed to teach the basics of qualitative data analysis (QDA) software.

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

QUAL Concentration

The QUAL Concentration is an optional track for UW graduate and doctoral students. It involves (1) taking part in the QUAL Module of four Workshop Tutorials, and (2) taking a minimum of three advanced courses at the 500 level in relevant research design and/or methods (minimum 9 credits). Classes may be selected from pre-approved QUAL Courses Lists I and II, and at least one must be from List I (for current Lists I and II, see: depts.washington.edu/qual/concentration). Students and their chair may petition the QUAL Steering Committee to substitute another course outside of List II. Students must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 for their three approved courses. The QUAL Steering Committee is responsible for approving a student's course plan in advance, and for formally granting the QUAL Concentration.

QUAL-RELATED COURSES 2015-16

COM 513 Fieldwork Research Methods - Autumn 2015

SOC 555 Qualitative Case-Based Research Methods - Winter 2016

JSIS 578 Advanced Qualitative Analyses for Interpretation and Conceptual Insight - Winter 2016

ANTH 519/GH 538 Advanced Qualitative Research Methods in Anthropology and Public Health - Spring 2016

Current list of courses - An up-to-date list of current and planned upcoming courses is available online: depts.washington.edu/qual/courses

QUAL MODULE: WORKSHOP TUTORIALS

This series is open to any UW graduate students interested in deepening their qualitative multi-method data analysis skills.

Instructor: Valentina Petrova

AUTUMN QUARTER 2015: Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. in Savery 121. Dates: Oct. 15, 29; Nov. 12; Dec. 3.

SPRING QUARTER 2016: Fridays, 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. in Savery 117. Dates: April 1, 8, 15, 22.

QUAL Module - Workshop Tutorials: Building a Research Question

- Session 1: Introduction to QDA software
 - This session will be an introduction to qualitative data analysis (QDA) software with a hands-on exercise, starting a research project in ATLAS.ti with qualitative data provided by the instructor.
- Session 2: Collecting and analyzing theories, claims, and hypotheses
 - This session will demonstrate – with an example project – how QDA software could be used to code and annotate source documents for a literature review.
- Session 3: Collecting and analyzing evidence
 - Participants will practice adding “preliminary evidence” data – including sample interviews, newspaper articles, website content, video and audio materials.
- Session 4: Pulling together your research question
 - Building on the work from sessions two and three, participants will see how QDA software can help them reveal connections between their literature and preliminary evidence data. The ultimate goal of the exercise will be to arrive at a research question, situated in the literature and grounded in evidence.

WINTER 2016 SEMINARS: Applied Case Study Examples

In this series, advanced Ph.D. students will present their research work using qualitative methods. The goal will be to demonstrate how to use QDA software for specific practical aspects of research design and data analysis and/or to share insights from the hands-on experience of conducting qualitative multi-method research and field work.

Winter 2016: Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. in Savery 121.

- Session 1: **Jan. 14, 2016** – What do you really do in a literature review? - **David Lopez**, Political Science
 - Session 2: **Feb. 11, 2016** – How do you analyze the data you’ve collected? - **Maggie Fesenmaier**, Communication
 - Session 3: **Feb. 25, 2016** – Revisiting the research question? - **Sara Tomczuk**, Sociology
 - Session 4: **Mar. 10, 2016** – What do you do with the data you’ve collected? - **Afsaneh Haddadian**, JSIS
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UW QUAL SPEAKER SERIES

QUAL will present a series of guest speakers to build a qualitative multi-method community and engage researchers and practitioners in a conversation. In the 2015-16 school year, UW QUAL Speaker Series will be hosted by the Jackson School Ph.D. Program's Bridge Lab. All talks are held 12:30 p.m. - 1:20 p.m. in Thomson 317.

Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015 - **Steve Pfaff**, Professor, Sociology

Thursday, March 3, 2016 - **James Pfeiffer**, Professor, Global Health/Anthropology/Health Services

Thursday, May 5, 2016 - **Gina Neff**, Associate Professor, Communication

CUSTOM QUAL WORKSHOPS

The Initiative offers custom QUAL workshops taught upon request from UW faculty for their qualitative multi-method courses. In Autumn 2015, two such workshop sets were presented by **Valentina Petrova**:

- **POLS 500:** Political Research Design and Analysis
Mark Smith, Political Science - 2 QUAL sessions
- **COM 513:** Fieldwork Research Methods
Matthew Powers, Communication - 2 QUAL sessions