

AEC 6932 Qualitative Research Methods
Fall 2023 (August 23 – December 6) section QRM; 3 Credits
Tuesday 8-10 periods (3:00pm-6:00pm)

Instructor:

Sebastian Galindo

113-C Bryant Space Center/ PO Box 112060

Gainesville, FL 32611-2060

Phone: (352) 273-0267; Email: sgalindo@ufl.edu

-Office hours: By appointment

Class Meets:

The class meets in 306 Rolfs Hall. The course also has an online component available through the University of Florida's e-learning system. The e-learning system can be accessed by login on to <http://elearning.ufl.edu/> and clicking on "Log in to E-learning". When prompted, enter your Gatorlink ID and password.

Course Description:

This course is designed to cover concepts relevant to designing and conducting qualitative research. Experiential learning is at the core of this course providing students with opportunities to both apply what they are learning and reflect on the process.

Objectives:

Upon completing the course, students will be able to conceptualize and carry out qualitative research. Specifically, students will be able to...

- Understand the philosophical foundations of social research.
- Identify, describe, and apply qualitative research designs and approaches.
- Design and implement rigorous qualitative studies.
- Properly utilize qualitative methods for data collection and analysis.
- Report qualitative research findings to different audiences.

Required Textbook and Readings:

Students are expected to purchase the following text (available at the University of Florida Bookstores or at online providers):

- Saldaña, J. & Omasta, M. 2022. Qualitative Research: Analyzing Life (2nd Ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA; Sage Publications [ISBN: 9781544372884]. The textbook has an associated website where students can find relevant materials for the class, including flash cards to prepare for the quizzes (<https://edge.sagepub.com/saldanaomasta2e/student-resources>; some of those materials will also be available through Canvas).
- Supplementary readings will be assigned.

Class Dynamics:

Class participation is a key component of this course since the social construction of knowledge is a chief expectation from students; this will be achieved through transformative dialogue in the form of in-class discussion and collaborative hands-on experiences. All students are expected to actively participate in the discussion of the readings and complete the different analytical exercises assigned for the week. Every week the instructor will use lectures, discussions, and/or hands-on activities to help the students acquire and apply knowledge and skills required to design and implement a qualitative study.

Assignments, Dates, and Grades:

The overall activity for the course is to practice different qualitative research tasks understand the design/implementation of a rigorous qualitative study. The assignments are listed below with their respective due dates indicated.

(Full descriptions of each deliverable will be distributed by the instructor)

Deliverable	Due Date	Total Point Value
Class attendance & participation (10 points each)	Weekly	150
Analytic Exercises (183 points each)	Multiple	550
Quizzes (Three; 100 points each)	Multiple	300
Total Points		1000

Course Grading Scale

A	950-1000	A-	900-949	B+	860-899
B	830-859	B-	800-829	C+	760-799
C	730-759	C-	700-729	D+	660-699
D	630-659	D-	600-629	E	599 or less

Course Schedule

	Date	Topics	Readings	Due
1	8/29/23	Course Introduction		
2	9/05/23	Analyzing Life	QR:AL Preface & Ch. 1	
3	9/12/23	Field Sites and Participant Observation	QR:AL Ch. 2	
4	9/19/23	Documents, Artifacts, Visual, and Digital Materials	QR:AL Ch. 3	
5	9/26/23	Interviews (Part 1)	QR:AL Ch. 4	<i>Analytic Exercises 1 Quiz 1</i>
6	10/03/23	Interviews (Part 2)	QR:AL Ch. 5	
7	10/10/23	Qualitative Methodologies	QR:AL Ch. 6	
8	10/17/23	Qualitative Research Design	QR:AL Ch. 7	
9	10/24/23	Research Ethics	QR:AL Ch. 8	<i>Analytic Exercises 2 Quiz 2</i>
10	10/31/23	Analysis to Synthesis (Part 1)	QR:AL Ch. 9	
11	11/07/23	Analysis to Synthesis (Part 2)	Additional readings	
12	11/14/23	Analysis to Synthesis (Part 3)	QR:AL Ch. 10	
13	11/21/23	Write-ups (Part 1)	QR:AL Ch. 11	
14	11/28/23	Write-ups (Part 2)		
15	12/05/23	Presentations and Professional Development	QR:AL Ch. 12	<i>Analytic Exercises 3 Quiz 3</i>

A note about written reports:

Cite all references using APA style format. APA (American Psychological Association) has a reference manual available at the University of Florida Library and they have information about writing and references on their website, which is <http://www.apa.org/>. The format to be used for papers is double-spacing; one-inch margins, and typed in 12-point font, unless otherwise noted. A consistent style is used for grading written papers. Primarily, show that you have learned and are able to apply the course material through your writing. In grading, the instructor looks for student's cognitive understanding and application of theories, principles, concepts, ideas, approaches that have been covered in readings and the course.

Lateness Policy:

A *10% per day* deduction will be assessed for assignments turned in late. Work more than a week late will *not* be accepted. This policy will be strictly enforced. All assignment and online discussion deadlines are *critical* for your individual success in this course and the success of the course overall. If you feel that you will be unable to meet these deadlines, you *must* communicate this to the course instructor *at least one day before the assignment or discussion posting is due*.

Grades and Grade Points

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Absences and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Academic Honesty

“UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Software Use:

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Campus Helping Resources

- Health and Wellness
 - **U Matter, We Care:** If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.
 - **Counseling and Wellness Center:** <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
 - **Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)** Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
 - **University Police Department**, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.
- Academic Resources
 - **E-learning technical support**, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
 - **Career Resource Center**, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.
 - **Library Support**, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
 - **Teaching Center**, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.
 - **Writing Studio**, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

Services for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation,

assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Disclaimer about syllabus:

Serious effort and consideration were used in formulating the syllabus presented by the instructor. While viewed as an educational contract between the instructor and student, unforeseen events may cause changes to the scheduling of assignments, readings, etc. The instructor reserves the right to make any changes deemed necessary to best fulfill the course objectives. Students registered for this course will be made aware of any changes in a timely fashion using reasonable means. This disclaimer does not abrogate any student rights as described by University rules and regulations.