

Gaziantep University
Department of Sociology

Year 2 Students
2024-2025

Spring Term

SOC206 Sociological Research Methods and Methodology - II

Module Outline

Lecturer-Convenor: Dr. Ayşegül Yıldırım, ayild002@gold.ac.uk,
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Module Description

This module aims to introduce students to the intricacies of qualitative methodological approaches employed in the investigation of sociological phenomena. It seeks to advance the understanding of various qualitative research methods as well as to make them familiar with their real-life application in different contexts. Particularly, students will be able to get into grips with qualitative and ethnographic data gathering, writing field notes, preliminary data analysis and interpretation, which are the basic skills needed in sociological inquiry. The methodological choice of the qualitative will be substantiated with theoretical backgrounds and approaches. Contemporary outlook for such methods and the future of qualitative sociology will also be discussed.

Upon successful completion of this module, students will achieve the following learning objectives:

- Details of the key conceptions and methods relating to qualitative research,
- Demonstrate an ability to outline the aims of ethnographic research,
- Assess the eligibility of ethnographic method in different contexts,
- Understand the relevance of ethnographic research in making sense of cultures and societies,
- Conduct small-scale ethnographic research using observation and/or interview techniques and report preliminary findings.

Readings

Weekly readings are compulsory and will be noted below. Students are required to complete the key readings before their corresponding lecture.

How to access these materials will be made clear during the lectures.

Reading list:

Denzin, N.K., Lincoln, Y.S., 2017. The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research. SAGE Publications.

Flick, U. 2009. An introduction to qualitative research (4th ed.). Sage Publications

Each week you will read one or two chapter from these books as key reading.

Further reference:

Atkinson, P., Delamont, S., Coffey, A., Lofland, J., Lofland, L., 2001. Handbook of Ethnography. SAGE Publications.

Pickering, M., 2008. Research Methods for Cultural Studies. Edinburgh University Press.

Silverman, D., 2007. A Very Short, Fairly Interesting and Reasonably Cheap Book about Qualitative Research. SAGE.

Silverman, D. 2006 Interpreting Qualitative Data: Methods for Analyzing Talk, Text, and Interaction. London: Sage.

Luker, K., 2009. Salsa Dancing into the Social Sciences. Harvard University Press.

Highmore, B., 2011. Ordinary Lives: Studies in the Everyday. Routledge, Oxon.

Bryman, A., Burgess, B., 2002. Analyzing Qualitative Data. Routledge.

Course requirements

You are expected to engage with **both the key readings and lecture notes** in your assessments for this module. ***Weekly readings are required to be done before the class*** and will be noted below.

Attendance is compulsory. Those who are unable to attend any lecture due to unforeseen circumstances should notify me in the first instance using above e-mail address (preferably the first one as it is monitored more often). Mass absences leading to cancellation of the class is a waste of time and detrimental for your learning.

Please ensure I have your up-to-date e-mail address as all essential correspondence are being conducted via e-mail.

Assessment is **40% mid-term exam, 60% final exam (to be detailed in the class).**

Plagiarism and use of AI-written texts are not to be tolerated.

Grammar and structure issues decrease the readability of your work and can lead to significant reduction in your marks. If your overarching argument is not clearly stated in your work, it is not possible for me to assess your submission properly. *I am here to help by guiding you in the right direction. However, it is ultimately the student's responsibility to improve on grammar with extra effort to catch up with the pace of the modules.*

If you are in doubt about any aspect of the course, please **e-mail** me and I will respond during the working hours (9am-5pm). Alternatively, you can visit in-person during the **office hours**. You are also welcome to visit before or after the classes about your inquiries, depending on my availability.

Weekly Summary¹

BLOCK I

WEEK 1 – Introduction and overview

No reading set for this week. Students are required to review the module outline.

WEEK 2 – The Qualitative Researcher: Issues around culture and identity

Key Reading: Introduction: The Discipline and Practice of Qualitative Research in Denzin, N.K., Lincoln, Y.S., 2017. *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research*. SAGE Publications., pp.29-71

WEEK 3 – Data in Qualitative Research

Key Reading: D...a...t...a..., Data++, Data, and Some Problematics in Denzin, N.K., Lincoln, Y.S., 2017. *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research*. SAGE Publications., pp.805-844.

WEEK 4 – Research in Action

Key Reading: Entering the Field in Flick, U. 2009. *An introduction to qualitative research* (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 10.

Sampling in Flick, U. 2009. *An introduction to qualitative research* (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 10.

WEEK 5 – Introduction to Ethnography

¹ For reference only. May be subject to change during term time.

Key Reading: Observation and Ethnography in Flick, U. 2009. *An introduction to qualitative research* (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 17.

WEEK 6 – The Interview

Key Reading: Interviews in Flick, U. 2009. *An introduction to qualitative research* (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 13.

WEEK 7 – Assessment advice

No reading set for this week. Students may catch up with other readings.

WEEK 8 - MID-TERMS - No Lecture.

BLOCK II

WEEK 1 – Narratives and Focus Groups

Key Reading: Narratives in Flick, U. 2009. *An introduction to qualitative research* (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 14.

Focus Groups in Flick, U. 2009. *An introduction to qualitative research* (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 15.

WEEK 2 – Using Mediated Data

Key Reading: Visual Data: Photography, Film and Video in *An introduction to qualitative research* (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 18.

WEEK 3 – Sensory Ethnography

Key Reading: TBC

WEEK 4 – Walking and Mobile Methods

Key Reading: TBC

WEEK 5 – Evaluating Qualitative Data

Key Reading: From Text to Theory in *An introduction to qualitative research* (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 22.

Coding and Categorising in An introduction to qualitative research (4th ed.). Sage Publications, Chapter 23.

WEEK 6 – Writing up your findings and issues around representation

Key Reading: TBC

WEEK 7 – Assessment advice.

No reading set for this week. Students may catch up with readings.

WEEK 8 - FINALS - No Lecture.