

**Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Methods: Introduction and Overview**

*SurvMeth 653* (1.5 credits)

July 1–July 12, 2013

Mon-Fri 1:00 - 3:00 pm

1460 Mason Hall

Dirgha Ghimire

Associate Research Scientist

Population Studies Center

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Email: [nepdijg@umich.edu](mailto:nepdijg@umich.edu)

Office: 2258 ISR

Lisa Pearce

Associate Professor of Sociology &

Faculty Fellow, Carolina Population Center

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Email: [ldpearce@unc.edu](mailto:ldpearce@unc.edu)

Office: 4057 ISR

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course equips students to design, conduct, and critique mixed method research. From a pragmatic perspective, we will explore the strengths and weaknesses of a variety of data collection methods, and evaluate strategies for combining them. We will focus on mixed method research designs incorporating semi-structured interviews, focus groups, participant observation, archival research, experiments, survey interviews, and/or hybrid methods. The majority of the course will center on research design and data collection issues; however, time will also be spent on strategies for analyzing and presenting data from multiple sources. This course is designed for those who are relatively new to mixed method research, but have a specific research project in mind. Throughout the course, participants will develop a mixed method research plan tailored to a research question of their choice.

**COURSE MATERIALS**

- Axinn, William G. and Lisa D. Pearce. 2006. Mixed Method Data Collection Strategies. New York, NY: Cambridge Press.
- CTools website with links to additional readings and other resources (<http://ctools.umich.edu>)

**ASSIGNMENTS**

In addition to doing the reading assigned for each class, there are three written assignments required during the course.

- RESEARCH QUESTION/S: Give a brief statement of your research question/s
  - Due Tuesday, July 2
- SPECIFIC AIMS / PROJECT SUMMARY: Succinctly describe your research question/s, data collection and/or analysis plan, and expected contributions
  - Due Friday, July 5
- RESEARCH PROPOSAL: Lay out your research question/s, brief explanation of your theoretical motivations and/or previous literature, and full detail regarding your data collection and analysis plan
  - Due Friday, July 12

**GRADING**

Grades are assigned as follows:

25%	Class Participation
10%	Assignment 1: Research Question/s
15%	Assignment 2: Specific Aims / Project Summary
50%	Assignment 3: Research Proposal

Grades: 90 – 100 = A; 80 – 89 = B; 70 – 79 = C; 60 – 69 = D; <60 = F

## SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

<b>Date</b>		<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	
<b>July</b>	1	M	<p>Welcome &amp; Overview</p> <p><i>REQUIRED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alford, R. R. 1998. "Chapter 2: Designing a Research Project" in <u>The Craft of Inquiry: Theories, Methods, and Evidence</u>. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.</li> </ul>	
<b>July</b>	2	T	<p>Foundations of a Mixed Methods Approach</p> <p><i>REQUIRED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MMDCS Chap 1: Mixing Methods as a Data Collection Strategy</li> <li>Morgan, D. L. 2007. "Paradigms Lost and Pragmatism Regained: Methodological Implications of Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Methods," <u>Journal of Mixed Methods Research</u> 1(1):48-76.</li> </ul> <p><i>RECOMMENDED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teddlie C and Tashakkori A. "Chapter 5: Paradigm Issues in Mixed Methods Research" in <u>Foundations of Mixed Methods Research</u>. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.</li> </ul>	
<b>July</b>	3	W	<p>Mixed Methods Research Design &amp; Issues</p> <p><i>REQUIRED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MMDCS Chapter 2: Fitting Data Collection Methods to Research Aims</li> <li>Teddlie, C. and F. Yu. 2007. "Mixed Methods Sampling: A Typology with Examples," <u>Journal of Mixed Methods Research</u> 1(1): 77-100.</li> </ul> <p><i>RECOMMENDED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tashakkori, A. and C. Teddlie. 1998. "Research Design Issues for Mixed Method and Mixed Model Studies." Chapter 3 (pp.41-58) in <u>Mixed Methodology: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches</u>. New York: Sage.</li> </ul>	
<b>July</b>	4	Th	HOLIDAY	NO CLASS
<b>July</b>	5	F	<p>Combining Ethnographic and Survey Methods</p> <p><i>REQUIRED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MMDCS Chapter 3: The Micro-Demographic Community Study Approach</li> <li>Small ML, Jacobs EM, and Massengill RP. 2008. "Why Organizational Ties Matter for Neighborhood Effects: A Study of Resource Access through Childcare Centers." <u>Social Forces</u> 87(1).</li> </ul>	
<b>July</b>	8	M	<p>Surveys and Individual Semi-Structured Interviews</p> <p><i>REQUIRED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MMDCS Chapter 4: Systematic Anomalous Case Analysis</li> <li>Kington, A., P. Sammons, C. Day, and E. Regan. 2011. "Stories and Statistics: Describing a Mixed Methods Study of Effective Classroom Practice," <u>Journal of Mixed Methods Research</u>5: 103-125.</li> </ul> <p><i>RECOMMENDED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jehn, K. A. &amp; K. Jonsen. 2010. "A Multimethod Approach to the Study of Sensitive Organizational Issues," <u>Journal of Mixed Methods Research</u>4:313-341.</li> </ul>	
<b>July</b>	9	T	<p>Focus Groups &amp; Surveys</p> <p><i>REQUIRED:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Morgan, D. L. 1996. "Focus Groups." <u>Annual Review of Sociology</u>22:129-52.</li> <li>Zeller, R. A. "Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Techniques to</li> </ul>	

Develop Culturally Sensitive Measures.” in D. G. Ostrow and R. C. Kessler (Eds.) Methodological Issues in AIDS Behavioral Research. New York: Plenum Press, pp. 95-116.

*RECOMMENDED:*

- Parmelee, J. H., S. C. Perkins, and J. J. Sayre. 2007. ““What About People Our Age?” Applying Qualitative and Quantitative Methods to Uncover How Political Ads Alienate College Students,” Journal of Mixed Methods Research, 1(2):183-199.

**July** 10 W Hybrid Methods

*REQUIRED:*

- MMDCS Chapter 5: Neighborhood History Calendars
- MMDCS Chapter 6: Life History Calendars

*RECOMMENDED:*

- Singer, B. H., C. D. Ryff, D. Carr, and W. Magee. 1998. “Linking Life Histories and Mental Health: A Person-Centered Strategy.” Sociological Methodology28:1-51.
- Shemmings, D. 2006. “Quantifying” qualitative data: an illustrative example of the use of Q methodology in psychosocial research’. Qualitative Research in Psychology, 3 (2). pp. 147-165.

**July** 11 TH Integrating  
During Analysis

*REQUIRED:*

- Onwueghbuze, A. and J. P. Combs. 2010. “Chapter 17: Emergent Data Analysis Techniques in Mixed Methods Research,” in Tashakkori, A. and C. Teddlie (eds.) Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Research. Thousand, CA: Sage.

*RECOMMENDED:*

- Bazeley, P. 2010. “Chapter 18: Computer-Assisted Integration of Mixed Methods Data Sources and Analyses,” in Tashakkori, A. and C. Teddlie (eds.) Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Research. Thousand, CA: Sage

**July** 12 F Integrating  
During  
Presentation

*REQUIRED:*

- MMDCS Chapter 8: Conclusion
- Sandelowski, M. 2003. “Chapter 12 Tables or Tableaux? The Challenges of Writing and Reading Mixed Methods Studies,” in Tashakkori, A. and C. Teddlie (eds.) Handbook of Mixed Methods in the Social and Behavioral Research. Thousand, CA: Sage.

*RECOMMENDED:*

- D. M. Mertens. 2011. “Publishing Mixed Methods Research,” Journal of Mixed Methods Research5:3-6.
- Dickinson, W. B. 2010. “Chapter 19: Visual Displays for Mixed Methods Findings,” in Tashakkori, A. and C. Teddlie (eds.) Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Research. Thousand, CA: Sage