INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jacqueline M. Quinless

Course Description and Objectives

This course will provide students with the opportunity to learn and implement a wide range of qualitative research methodologies that are used in the social sciences. In particular, students will learn about knowledge formation in qualitative approaches and their ontological and epistemological underpinnings. This will include not only learning key aspects of qualitative approaches such as grounded theory, interviewing, narrative analysis but also the more technical components of the research process which include: design, sampling, data collection, analysis, and the reporting of findings. This course will also consider existing practical, ethical, and political issues when engaging in research with Indigenous communities and we will engage with Indigenous research methodologies. Class discussions will also concentrate on ethics, reflexivity, and decolonization of research methods, and how engaging in culturally responsive and ethically informed research is critical when working with Indigenous communities and peoples; here students will learn how research contributes to decolonization, and the differences between reconciliation and Indigenous resurgence.

Skills Development and Learning Outcomes

The sessions will be divided between lectures, class discussions, workshops and community partnerships, and occasional Guest Lectures to provide basic tools and methods for conducting applied research. During the course, students will learn how to collect, code, and analyze data through an applied hands-on learning exercise in qualitative fieldwork. There will be an emphasis on decolonization.

Required Textbooks


Selected Articles pertaining to Indigenous Methodologies

* A more detailed course outline will be distributed to students during the first week of classes.