

# SOCI 374<sup>1</sup> Qualitative Research Methods

---



Image: [methodsuxdesign](https://www.methodsuxdesign.com/)

## Course Description

How do sociologists conduct qualitative research? This course introduces students to several qualitative research methods used in the social sciences. We will also cover core aspects of the research process including design, sampling, data collection and analysis, ethics, reciprocity, and publication for various audiences. While following physical distancing protocols, students will carry out their own original research using methods learned in this course, which provides an opportunity to gain hands-on experience. Developing strong skills and practical experience in qualitative methods is useful for a wide range of careers, including academia, market research, government consultation, and non-profits.

## Instructor

Professor Anelyse Weiler

[anelyse@uvic.ca](mailto:anelyse@uvic.ca)

[anelyseweiler.com](http://anelyseweiler.com)

Office hours will be held remotely.

---

<sup>1</sup> This outline is only intended to give students a general sense of the course, and course details may change. Detailed course syllabi will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those syllabi are considered official.

## **Format**

It is anticipated that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SOCI 374 will be taught remotely through a combination of synchronous and asynchronous modes. This means that students will be expected to participate actively in “live” classes during at least one of the two designated weekly class meetings (accommodations will of course be made in events such as illness, unexpected family care, etc.). While instructor guidance and interaction will be available throughout the course, because of the remote nature of the course students will be expected to practice more independence and self-pacing than with regular in-person classes.

We will be using a combination of Zoom (video conferencing), CourseSpaces (course website), and Kaltura (UVic’s in-house version of YouTube).

## **Course Objectives**

The objectives are to: (1) gain an in-depth understanding of selected qualitative methodologies and their key features; (2) understand key aspects of the qualitative research process, including design, sampling, data collection and analysis, ethics, reciprocity, and publication; (3) gain the knowledge-base and practical skills necessary to conduct rigorous, theoretically informed, and ethical research.

## **Course Pre/Co-requisites**

SOCI 211 is a pre-requisite for SOCI 374.

## **Topics May Include**

Community-based research; Visual and online research methods; Feminist and anti-racist research methods; Indigenous and decolonizing methodologies.

## **Required Textbook/Readings**

Ritchie, J., Lewis, J., McNaughton Nicholls, C., & Ormston, R. (2013). *Qualitative Research Practice: A Guide for Social Science Students and Researchers* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). London, UK: Sage. Note: this required textbook is available as an e-book.

Other required readings will be uploaded on CourseSpaces as the course progresses. A list of all required readings will be included in the detailed course syllabus.