Mixed Methods Research: Combining Quantitative and Qualitative Data and Strategies

ICPSR Summer Program
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Monday, July 15 to Wednesday, July 17, 2019
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Course Description:
Mixed methods research typically refers to research design and implementation that combines qualitative and quantitative data collection and/or analysis strategies. This course examines best practices, through the review of exemplars and discussion of theoretical approaches, in “mixing” methods and integrating qualitative and quantitative research. The course introduces students to the theory and practice of mixed methods research in the social sciences. In the course we will examine and evaluate specific applications of mixed methods research. Further, course participants are encouraged to bring ideas, drafts, and questions about their own mixed methods project including dissertations, prospectuses, funding and grant proposals, or other plans for implementing this type of research.

Course Goals and Structure:
The goals of the course are to interrogate the utility, challenges, and potential of mixed methods research. While we will discuss the theory and concepts surrounding mixed methods research the course is intended to be of practical use to participants: that is, we will discuss best practices and work i to workshop and develop participants' mixed methods ideas. It would be helpful if participants could arrive with some information about a project they are undertaking/interested in working on. In particular: research questions, scope and scale of the project (timeline, participants), key concepts, types of data, methods you hope to use in data analysis (quant, qual or both).

There are no prerequisites for the course but the instructor assumes a working knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research.

*note: while the topics and readings are similar to the introductory course we will spend more time discussing extant empirical studies and workshopping participant ideas and research in this course.

Instructor:
Shiri Noy is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Denison University. She earned her PhD in Sociology at Indiana University, Bloomington, with a minor in Social Science Research Methods. She has taught both graduate and undergraduate research methods, and has conducted and published interdisciplinary and sociological research across methods and in mixed methods. Quantitatively, she has collected survey data, and on both original and secondary data she has utilized latent class analysis, regression models for both linear and categorical data, including cross-section time-series analyses and selection models as well as comparative analyses using country-level and individual-level data as well as experimental survey data analyses and social network analysis. Qualitatively, she has conducted research in several countries, utilizing process tracing and has conducted and analyzed interviews, content analysis of documents, and focus groups. Dr. Noy has recently published a book, a mixed methods analysis of the World Bank’s effect on health policy in Latin America (Banking on Health, Palgrave Macmillan 2017). She is fundamentally interested in how we approach ways of understanding the social world, and how best to collect and analyze data that helps us untangle and address issues of substantive, conceptual, theoretical, and empirical interest.
DAY 1

Session 1: Introduction to Mixed Methods [morning]

Suggested Readings:


Session 2: Purpose and Goals of Mixed Methods Research [afternoon]

Suggested Readings:


DAY 2

Session 3: Research Design [morning]

Suggested Readings:

Session 4: Data Collection [afternoon]

Suggested Readings:

DAY 3

Session 5: Data Analysis [morning]

Suggested Readings:
Section 6: Dissemination [afternoon]

Suggested Readings:


