



Qualitative Multi-Method Research Initiative (QUAL)

WHAT IS QUAL?

QUAL is a UW-wide initiative launched in response to pressing demand for qualitative research design and methods training in the social sciences.

QUAL's goal is to promote and systematize training in qualitative research methods and to build a community of qualitative multi-method researchers in and around UW.

QUAL aims to specifically advance the skillsets related to qualitative multi-methods that are useful for graduate students across all social science departments and the broader UW.

QUAL Steering Committee

Saadia Pekkanen, International Studies; Law
Daniel Bessner, International Studies; History
Kirsten Foot, Communication
James Long, Political Science
Steve Pfaff, Sociology
James Pfeiffer, Global Health; Anthropology
Michael Townsend, Law

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WHAT QUAL HAS TO OFFER

The Qualitative Multi-Method Research Initiative (QUAL):

BUILDS a community of social science graduate students, faculty, and experts in applied qualitative research from the university and beyond. QUAL connects these stakeholders through a **QUAL Speaker Series** aimed at engaging qualitative multi-method researchers and practitioners in a conversation.

TRAINS social science graduate students through UW qualitative-related courses and in qualitative software uses through **QUAL Workshops**. These hands-on workshops are free sessions designed to teach the basics of qualitative data analysis (QDA) software.

ADVANCES the qualitative multi-method research skills of graduate students interested in completing a **QUAL Concentration**.

QUAL Concentration

The QUAL Concentration is an optional track for UW graduate and doctoral students. It involves (1) completing one of the QUAL Workshops, (2) taking a minimum of three advanced courses at the 500 level in relevant research design and/or methods (minimum 9 credits), and (3) attending a minimum of four QUAL Speaker Series talks.

Classes may be selected from pre-approved QUAL Courses Lists I and II, and at least one must be from List I. Students and their chair may petition the QUAL Steering Committee to substitute another course outside of List II. To learn more and apply, visit: depts.washington.edu/qual/concentration.

QUAL-RELATED COURSES 2018-19

SOC WL 585 Qualitative Methods In Social Work Research I | Autumn 2018
SOC WL 581 Qualitative Research: Methods and Design | Winter 2019
POLS 504 Designing Multi-Method Field Research | Winter 2019
JSIS 595/LAW B 554 Qualitative Case-Based Research Methods | Winter 2019
SOC WL 586 Qualitative Methods In Social Work Research II | Spring 2019
SOC 582 A Doing Qualitative Research | Spring 2019
GH 590 A (or GH 538) Advanced Qualitative Research Methods in Public Health | Spring 2019

The above is a projected courses list. For current information and syllabi, visit: depts.washington.edu/qual/courses

QUAL WORKSHOPS

QUAL Workshops are free, hands-on tutorials open to any UW graduate students interested in deepening their qualitative multi-method data analysis skills.

Instructor: Valentina Petrova

Offered: typically once in fall quarter and once in spring quarter

QUAL Workshops: Building a Research Question

- Introduction to QDA software
 - The QUAL Workshop tutorial begins with an introduction to qualitative data analysis (QDA) software and a hands-on exercise, starting a research project in ATLAS.ti with qualitative data provided by the instructor.
- Collecting and analyzing theories, claims, and hypotheses
 - Using the example project with data provided by the Instructor, workshop participants learn how QDA software could be used to code and annotate source documents for a literature review.
- Collecting and analyzing evidence
 - Participants practice adding “preliminary evidence” data to the project – including sample interviews, newspaper articles, website content, video and audio materials.
- Pulling together your research question
 - Finally, participants see how QDA software can help reveal connections between their literature readings and preliminary evidence data. The ultimate goal of the exercise is to arrive at a research question, situated in the literature and grounded in evidence.

For more information and to register for the next available QUAL Workshop, visit depts.washington.edu/qual/workshops



Sociology Professor and QUAL Steering Committee member Steve Pfaff talks to graduate students, faculty, and staff about his experience conducting key informant interviews on political Islam in Berlin.

QUAL SPEAKER SERIES

QUAL presents a series of talks to build a qualitative multi-method community and engage researchers and practitioners in a conversation. The UW QUAL Speaker Series is hosted by the Jackson School Ph.D. Program's Bridge Lab.

There are usually two talks offered each quarter. For the upcoming schedule, visit: depts.washington.edu/qual/calendar.

To read the highlights and key takeaways from past talks, visit: depts.washington.edu/qual/category/qual-speaker-series.