

# PSY455 Qualitative Research

**Level:** 4

**Credit Units:** 5 Credit Units

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Presentation Pattern:** EVERY JAN

## **Synopsis:**

While psychological studies are dominated by quantitative research methods, qualitative research remains deeply entrenched for certain disciplines in psychology, such as group dynamics and psychotherapy. Qualitative research is grounded in a different paradigm that focuses on experiential feeling as opposed to quantifiable numbers. The course will explore a range of methodologies commonly adopted in qualitative research and there will be opportunities for students to design their own qualitative research.

## **Topics:**

- Why Qualitative Research?, Philosophy, Paradigms and Interpretative Frameworks for Qualitative Study
- Designing a Qualitative Study, Learning about Five Qualitative Approaches to Inquiry
- Focusing the Study, Data Collection
- Data Analysis and Representation
- Writing Up the Study
- Standards of Validation and Evaluation

## **Textbooks:**

Creswell, J.W., & Poth, C.N.: Main textbook: Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches. (etext) 4th ed. (2017). Sage Publications.  
ISBN-13: 9781506330211

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ISBN-13: 9781506330211-AA

**Learning Outcome:**

- Appraise the strengths and limitations of qualitative research
- Differentiate the distinctive features of qualitative research from that of quantitative research
- Discuss these methodologies: Ethnography, Narrative Research, Grounded Theory, Case Study and Phenomenology
- Defend the standards of validating and evaluating qualitative research
- Construct a viable step-by-step qualitative inquiry process to guide decision-making and action and construct interviews and observation studies
- Design observation studies and interviews for information gathering and decision making

**Assessment Strategies:**

<b>Continuous Assessment Component</b>	<b>Weightage (%)</b>
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	25
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	25
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>50</b>

<b>Examinable Component</b>	<b>Weightage (%)</b>
Written Exam	50
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>50</b>

**Weightage Total** **100**