

SC510 Approaches to Mixed Methods Research¹

Wednesdays 3-5:20

Room: Mc Guinn 415

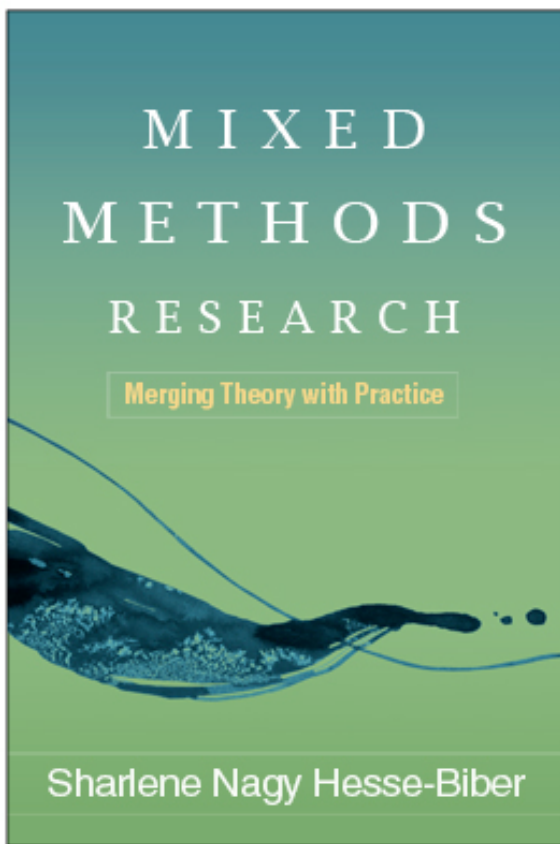
Fall Semester 2009

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 3:30 - 4:30



COURSE OVERVIEW

The goals of this course are multiple:

- (1) To introduce you to different mixed methods research approaches.
- (2) To analyze the underlying epistemological and paradigmatic implications of specific mixed method designs.
- (3) To assist you with designing your own mixed methods research project and/or reviewing and critiquing a specific research area that uses a mixed methods approach.
- (4) Peer reviewing of work. You will learn how to give constructive feedback to your peers in terms of constructively critiquing their work.

This is a graduate-level seminar and that means that on several given weeks, you will be asked to lead class discussion of the readings. You will be expected to present a critical overview of and provide commentary on the week's readings and, with the class, examine and critique the readings.

Students enrolling in this course should have taken at least ONE undergraduate and/or graduate research methods course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance is Mandatory.
2. Classroom Participation means engaging specifically with the week's readings. Please bring articles/chapters to each class.
3. Reading Responses: You are expected to hand in a written response (2 page maximum, typed, single-spaced) to the weekly readings for SIX out of the fourteen weeks in which readings are

¹ Part of this syllabus was adapted from Kai A. Schafft's, Spring 2007 Mixed Methods course syllabus from Penn State University.

assigned. Your paper is due at the beginning of the class of your chosen week. You should provide a critical analysis of the week's readings. I don't expect summaries, but your reflections on a particular issue/point that is presented in the readings.

4. Final Paper: A final paper will be due at the end of the class. The length should be 15-20 pages (double-spaced, not including tables, figures and references). The paper should be one of the following:
 - a. A research proposal that employs a mixed methods design. This may be a project you would like to work on or a future topic of interest to you.
 - b. A review of the (emerging) use of mixed methods in a particular discipline or one that is inter-disciplinary.
 - c. An alternative to options (a) and (b) that is selected in consultation with me.

One-page paper proposals, along with a short literature review, will be due in class on OCTOBER 7th.

You will be asked to select a research buddy with whom you will discuss your proposal during the course of the semester. Try to do this the second week of class if possible. If you would like me to assign you a buddy, please let me know. I am also open to folks wanting to form larger research buddy groups as well, depending on your particular interests.

You are expected to make a brief presentation your paper at the end of the semester.

Final papers in their written form will be due and handed in at the beginning of class on Wednesday December 2nd. Papers should follow the APA template (I will give this handout in class).

GRADING

My assumption is that EVERYONE will succeed in this class. However, I will use the following breakdown to determine final grades.

Class Participation: 10% Class participation is based on your informed discussion of the readings. That means that you must bring the readings to class and be prepared to engaged in a analytical discussion regarding the week's readings.

Weekly Response Papers (6 total): 45%

Final Presentation 5%

Final Paper: 40%

REQUIRED READINGS

There are three books ordered for this course.

- Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Bergman, M.M. (2008). *Advances in Mixed Methods Research: Theories and Applications*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.
- Hesse-Biber, Sharlene (2010). *Mixed Methods Research: Merging Theory with Practice*. New York: Guilford Publications. Out End of October/Beginning of November.
- Other readings are available on Blackboard.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Trends in Mixed Methods Research:
<http://arjournals.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev.soc.012809.102657?prevSearch=%255Ball%253A%2B%2522mixed%2Bmethods%2522%2B2010%255D&searchHistoryKey%3D>
- <http://www.npi.ucla.edu/qualquant/> This site provides an annotated bibliography of a variety of mixed methods research approaches as well as some applications of mixed methods designs.)
- <http://obsr.od.nih.gov/Documents/Publications/Qualitative.PDF> (Provides tips on writing your proposal with a special segment on mixed methods research)
- <http://www.ehr.nsf.gov/EHR/REC/pubs/NSF97-153/start.htm> (guide for conducting mixed methods for evaluation research projects , with an emphasis on mixing methods in social science research)
- <http://mmr.sagepub.com/> (The leading mixed methods journal : Journal of Mixed Methods Research. I am on the advisory board for this journal and I am hope you will submit your future articles to this journal!)

COURSE SCHEDULE Note: I reserve the right to tweak the syllabus as per the interests of the class and the general direction things are going given all of your diverse interests.

PART I. Paradigm Wars and the Advent of Age of Mixed Methods Research

WEEK ONE: September 9th. Welcome and Course Introduction and Overview: What are Mixed Methods? Why is mixed methods important?

WEEK TWO: September 16th. Philosophical Issues in Mixing Methods: “The Paradigm Wars” / The End of the “Paradigm Wars?” What’s Next?

Collins, R. (1984). Statistics versus words. *Sociological Theory*, 2. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 329-362. Available ONLINE: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/223353?seq=1>

Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). Designing and conducting mixed methods research. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Chapter 1: Understanding mixed methods research (pp. 1-19); Chapter 2, Examining preliminary considerations (pp. 20-37)]

Hesse-Biber, S. (2010). Chapter 1.” Introduction to Mixed Methods Research.” In Hesse-Biber, S. *Mixed Methods Research: Merging Theory with Practice*. New York: Guilford Publications. I provide you with a hard copy of this chapter.

Max Bergman (2007). Chapter 1 “The Straw Men of the Qualitative-Quantitative Divide and their Influence on Mixed Methods Research.”

WEEK THREE: September 23rd The importance of centering the research question. Mixed Methods sampling. The Political & Ethical Implications of Mixed Method Inquiry

Hesse-Biber, S. (2010). "Formulating Questions in Mixed Methods Research and the Centrality of Ethics." Chapter 2. In Hesse-Biber, S. *Mixed Methods Research: Merging Theory with Practice*. New York: Guilford Publications. I will handout a copy of this chapter.

Creswell, J.W. and Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). Chapter 2 Examining Preliminary Considerations.

Jennifer Greene (2007). "Contested Spaces: Paradigms and Practice in Mixed Methods Social Inquiry. Chapter 4. In Jennifer Greene. *Mixed Methods Social Inquiry*. John Wiley.

Narayan, D., Patel, R., Schafft, K., Rademacher, A., & Koch-Schulte, S. (2000). *Voices of the poor: Can anyone hear us?* New York: Oxford University Press. [pages 3-28; 294-308]

Rademacher, A., & Patel, R. (2002). Retelling worlds of poverty: Reflections on transforming participatory research for a global narrative. In K. Brock & R. McGee (Eds.) *Knowing poverty: Critical reflections on participatory research and poverty* (pp. 166-188) Sussex: Institute for Development Studies.

PART II. Mixed Methods Research Designs

WEEK FOUR: September 30th. Classifying Mixed Method Design Types and the continued prominence of Triangulation Designs

Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). Designing and conducting mixed methods research. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Chapter 4, pp. 58-87]

Lynne S. Giddings (2006) Mixed-methods research: Positivism Dressed in Drag. *Journal of Nursing Research* (11): 3: 195-203.

Newman, I., Ridenour, C.S., Newman, C., & DeMarco Jr., G.M.P. (2003). A typology of research purposes and its relationship to mixed methods. In A. Tashakkori & C. Teddlie (Eds.) *Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Research* (pp. 167-188). Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Martyn Hammersley (2008). "Troubles with Triangulation." Chapter 2 in Bergmann Reader

Examples of Triangulation Mixed Methods Designs:

Jenkins, J.E. (2001). Rural adolescent perceptions of alcohol and other drug resistance. *Child Study Journal*, 31, 211-224. [Note: This section appears in Creswell & Plano Clark (2007), pages 194-203]

Yauch, C.A., & Steudel, H.J. (2003). Complementary use of qualitative and quantitative cultural assessment methods. *Organizational Research Methods*, 6, 465-481.

WEEK FIVE: October 7th. General Qualitative Approaches to Mixed Methods Design and the Embedded Mixed Methods Design

General Qualitative Approaches and mixed Methods Designs : Hesse-Biber, Chapter 3. A Qualitative Approach to Mixed Methods Design, Analysis, Interpretation, Writing Up, and Validity

Embedded Design A Quantitative Approach: Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Revisit Chapter 4: "The Embedded Design," pp. 67-70]

Example of Embedded Mixed Methods Design:

Rogers, A., Day, J., Randall, F., & Bentall, R.P. (2003). Patients' understanding and participation in a trial designed to improve the management of anti-psychotic medication. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*, 38,720-727. [Note: This section appears in Creswell & Plano Clark (2007), pages 204-215]

WEEK SIX: October 14th. The Explanatory and Exploratory Mixed Methods Designs

Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Chapter 4: "The Explanatory Design," pp. 71-74]

Examples of Explanatory Designs:

Aldridge, J.M., Fraser, B.J., & Huang, I.T. (1999). Investigating classroom environments in Taiwan and Australia with multiple research methods. *The Journal of Educational Research*, 93, 48-62. [Note: This section appears in Creswell & Plano Clark (2007), pages 216-238]

Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Chapter 4: "The Exploratory Design," pp. 75-87]

Example of an Exploratory Design

Karen Kroman Myers and John G. Oetzel "Exploring the Dimensions of Organizational Assimilation." [Note: This section appears in Creswell & Plano Clark (2007), pp 239-256]

PART IV. Collecting, Analyzing, Interpreting and Writing up Mixed Methods Research.

WEEK SEVEN: October 21st. Data Collection, Sampling, and validity in Mixed Methods

Hesse-Biber, Chapter 3 (concentrate on data collection, sampling, literature and validity sections)

Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Chapter 6: Collecting data in mixed methods research (pp. 110-127)]

Edith de Leeuw and Joop Hox 2007. "Mixing Data Collection Methods: Lessons from social Survey Research in Max Bergmann Book

Miller, S. (2003). The impact of mixed methods and design on inference quality. In A. Tashakkori & C. Teddlie (Eds.) *Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Research* (pp. 423-456. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Sale, J.E.M., & Brazil, K. (2004). A strategy to identify critical appraisal criteria for primary mixed-method studies. *Quality & Quantity*, 38, 351-365.

Teddlie, C., & Yu, F. (2007). Mixed methods sampling: A typology with examples. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 1, 77-100.

WEEK EIGHT: October 28th. Analysis and Interpretation of Mixed Methods Data

Hesse-Biber, S. (2010). Chapter 3. (concentrate on analysis and interpretation sections in detail)

Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Chapter 7: Analyzing Data in Mixed Methods Research (pp. 128-149)]

Moffatt, S., White, M., Mackintosh, J., & Howel, D. (2006). Using quantitative and qualitative data in health services research: What happens when mixed methods findings conflict? *BMC Health Services Research*, 6. Retrieved October 1, 2006 from <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/6/28>.

Alan Bryman (2007) “ Why do Researchers Integrate/Combine/Mese /lend/Mix/Merge/use Quatitative and Qualitative Research . Chapter 6 in Bergman reader.

WEEK NINE: November 4th. Writing Up Mixed Methods Research

Hesse-Biber, Chapter 3 (concentrate on writing up section).

Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Chapter 8, Writing and Evaluating Mixed Methods Research (pp. 151-166)]

Sandelowski, M. (2003). Tables or tableaux? The challenges of writing and reading mixed methods studies. In A. Tashakkori & C. Teddlie (Eds.) *Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Research* (pp. 321-350). Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Peruse this Resource: **Preparing a Dissertation Proposal: Mixed Methods Version (I will send you the pdf file for this week).**

WEEK TEN: November 11th. Putting it all together: Designing your Research Proposal

Hesse-Biber, S. Chapter 7. Entire chapter.

Creswell, J.W., & Plano Clark, V.L. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Chapter 5: Introducing a Mixed Methods Study (pp. 89-109)]

<http://obssr.od.nih.gov/Documents/Publications/Qualitative.PDF> (Guide for proposal writing : READ: section on mixed methods projects)

PART IV. Specific Mixed Methods Approaches

WEEK ELEVEN: November 18th. Mixed Methods Transformative- Emancipatory Perspectives

Mertens, D.M. (2003). Mixed methods and the politics of human research: The transformative-emancipatory perspective. In A. Tashakkori & C. Teddlie (Eds.) *Handbook of Mixed Methods*

in *Social and Behavioral Research* (Chapter 5, pp. 135-164). Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Hollingsworth, L.D. (2004). Child custody loss among women with persistent severe mental illness. *Social Work Research*, 28(4), 199-209.

Kumar, M.S., Mudaliar, S.M., Thyagarajan, S.P., Kumar, S., Selvanayagam, A., Daniels, D. (2000). Rapid assessment and response to injecting drug use in Madras, south India. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 11, 83-98.

WEEK TWELVE: November 25th. Thanksgiving Day Week. NO CLASS

WEEK THIRTEEN: December 2nd. Mixed Methods Interpretative Perspectives

Hesse-Biber, Chapter 4 Entire Chapter

Jovic, E., Wallace, J.E., & Lemaire, J. (2006). The generation and gender shifts in medicine: An exploratory survey of internal medicine physicians. *BMC Health Services Research*, 6(55). Available online: www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi?artid=1482702

McMahon, S. (2007). Understanding Community-Specific Rape Myths: Exploring Student Athlete Culture. *Affilia*, 22, 357-370. Available online: aff.sagepub.com/cgi/content/refs/22/4/357

Stewart, M., Makwarimba, E., Barnfather, A., Letourneau, N., & Neufeld, A. (2008). Researching reducing health disparities: Mixed-methods approaches. *Social Science & Medicine*, 66, 1406-1417. Available online at ScienceDirect.

Torres, V. (2006). A Mixed Method Study Testing Data-Model Fit of a Retention Model for Latino/a Students at Urban Universities. *Journal of College Student Development*, 47(3), 299-318. Available online: muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_college_student_development/v047/47.3torres.html

WEEK FOURTEEN: December 9th. Mixed Methods Feminist Perspectives

Hesse-Biber, Chapter 5. Entire Chapter

Nightingale, A. (2006b). *A forest community or community forestry? Beliefs, meanings and nature in north-western Nepal*. Online papers archived by the Institute of Geography, School of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh. Available at <http://www.era.lib.ed.ac.uk/bitstream/1842/1436/1/anightingale003.pdf>.

Nicholson, P. (2004). Taking quality seriously: The case for qualitative feminist psychology in the context of quantitative clinical research on postnatal depression. In Z. Todd, B. Nerlich, S. McDeown, & D.D. Clarke (Eds.), *Mixing methods in psychology: The integration of qualitative and quantitative methods in theory and practice* (pp. 207-223). New York: Psychology Press.

Tolman, D.L., & Szalacha, L.A. (1999). Dimensions of desire: Bridging qualitative and quantitative methods in a study of female adolescent sexuality. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 23, 7-39. Broadview Press.

O'Neill, B. (2009). *A Mixed Methods Approach to Studying Women's Political Opinions*.

Prepared for delivery at the First European Conference on Politics and Gender, Queen's University of Belfast, UK. Available online:
www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr/standinggroups/documents/ONeill.pdf

WEEK FIFTEEN: Final Paper Presentations & Course Wrap-Up