

Mixed Method Research Design and Data Collection

SurvMeth 653 (1.5 credits)

July 25-29, 2016

Monday-Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm

INSTRUCTORS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course reviews multiple methods of data collection and presents study designs for combining multiple methods within a single research project. The course focuses on the integration of survey methods with multiple alternative methods to achieve a single data collection approach using the strengths of some methods to compensate for weaknesses in other methods. The methods examined include unstructured or in-depth interviews, semi-structured interviews, focus groups, survey interviews, observation, geographic information systems, archival research, social media analysis and hybrid methods. Emphasis will be placed on the specific contribution of each method, as well as the use of combined methods to advance specific research questions. This course is designed for those with a specific research question in mind. Throughout the course, participants will be asked to design multi-method approaches to a research question of their choice. By the end of this course, participants will have an overview of multi-method research that will enable them to design, understand, and evaluate multi-method approaches within a single project.

This interactive course uses a combination of lecture, in-class exercises, group exercises and individual participation. Individual consultation will be provided to assist participants with the assignments.

Assignments should be emailed or handed in as hard copy by 4 pm the day they are due. Feedback will be provided in a timely manner to aid in future assignments.

COURSE MATERIALS

- Axinn, William G. and Lisa D. Pearce. 2006. *Mixed Method Data Collection Strategies*. New York, NY: Cambridge Press.
- Readings as listed below

OFFICE HOURS

Both instructors are available to meet and further discuss class topics and assignments. Please make an appointment.

ASSIGNMENTS

In addition to completing assigned reading for each class, there are five written assignments required during the course.

- **RESEARCH QUESTION** (up to ½ page, double-spaced): Give a brief statement of your research question. Be clear that the relationship you are trying to explain is between two factors, experiences, or issues.

Due Monday, July 25

- **RESEARCH DESIGN (1-2 pages):** Describe your analytic approach to answering your research question: 1) include one main hypothesis that motivates your project and how it will involve appropriate dependent and independent variables; 2) address issues of operationalization, units of analysis, selection of cases to study, and comparisons groups for answering your question; and 3) make clear the pattern of results that would tend to confirm or refute your hypothesis.

Due Tuesday, July 26

- **STRUCTURED/UNSTRUCTURED INTERVIEW DATA COLLECTION PLAN (1-2 pages, double-spaced):** Describe how it would be possible to use both structured and unstructured interviews in a study related to your research question. First tell us a little about how you would carry out the interviews (e.g., how respondents would be selected, topic/s about which to ask questions, etc.). Second, describe how you would use highly structured and unstructured interviews or questions in your study. Third, describe how using structured and unstructured interviews would enhance the overall multi-method project. Integrate observational measurement if appropriate.

Due Wednesday, July 27

- **HYBRID METHOD DATA COLLECTION PLAN (1-2 pages, double-spaced):** Describe how you might incorporate hybrid methods to collect data related to your research question. First describe how you would collect the data (e.g., sample, location, topics, etc.). Second, describe how the resulting data would help answer your research question.

Due Thursday, July 28

- **COMBINED METHOD DATA COLLECTION PLAN (3-5 pages, double-spaced):** Throughout this class we discussed a variety of different ways to combine methods simultaneously, in sequence or within one hybrid method. Focusing on the research question you have been working with throughout this course, write a data collection plan describing how you could use at least two of the research methods we've discussed, in tandem. You may use pieces of your other work completed in this course to help you, but make sure your plan flows well. You do NOT have to incorporate every method we discussed—please only select the methods that seem best suited to answering your research question. You should include a succinct description of your research question, the methods you intend to use, the order in which the methods will be used, and how each method will inform the other(s). If you would like feedback on this assignment, please specify whether you would like me to 1) e-mail (please specify an e-mail address); 2) return your assignment (please specify a mailing address); or 3) something else.

Due Friday, July 29

GRADING

Grades are assigned as follows:

- 25% Class Participation
- 10% Assignment 1: Research Question
- 15% Assignment 2: Research Design
- 10% Assignment 3: Structured and Unstructured Interview
- 15% Assignment 4: Hybrid Method Data Collection
- 25% Assignment 5: Combined Method Data Collection Plan

Grading Scale:

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- <60% = F

SCHEDULE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Required Readings</i>
July 25 (M)	Overview & Mixed Methods Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mixed Method Data Collection Strategies (MM) Chapter 1: Mixing Methods as a Data Collection Strategy
	Comparing Data Collection Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Couper, Mick P. 2011. "The future of modes of data collection." <i>Public Opinion Quarterly</i>, 75(5):889-908. Couper, Mick P. 2013. "Is the Sky Falling? New Technology, Changing Media, and the Future of Surveys." <i>Survey Research Methods</i>, 7(3):145-156. Bakshy, E., Messing, S., & Adamic, L. 2015. "Exposure to ideologically diverse news and opinion on Facebook." <i>Science</i>, aaa1160.
	SWATS/GRAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Nathalie E., Thomas, T., Dunbar, M., Eagle, N., & Dobra, A. 2013. "Measurement of Human Mobility Using Cell Phone Data: Developing Big Data for Demographic Science." Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences, University of Washington, Working Paper no. 137.
	Assignment 1 Due	RESEARCH QUESTION
July 26 (Tu)	Research Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MM Chapter 2: Fitting Data Collection Methods to Research Aims Campbell, D. T., & Stanley, J. C. 1963. <i>Experimental and quasi-experimental designs for research on teaching</i>. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Company. Deaton, A. 2010. "Instruments, randomization, and learning about development." <i>Journal of Economic Literature</i>, 48(2):424-455. Winship, C., & Morgan, S.L. 1999. "The estimation of causal effects from observational data." <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i>, 25:659-706. Almirall 2015 Dynamic Treatment Regimes
	GGRI	<p>Suggested Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winship C., & Morgan, S. 2007. <i>Counterfactuals and Causal Inference</i>. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge Press Glennerster, R. & Takavarash, K. 2013. <i>Running Randomized Evaluations</i>. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
	Assignment 2 Due	RESEARCH DESIGN
July 27 (W)	Mixed Methods: Simultaneous and Sequential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MM Chapter 3: The Micro-Demographic Community Study Approach MM Chapter 4: Systematic Anomalous Case Analysis Ghimire, D.J., Chardoul, S., Kessler, R.C., Axinn, W.G., & Adhikari, B.P. 2013. "Modifying and Validating the Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI) for Use in Nepal." <i>International Journal of Methods in Psychiatric Research</i>, 22(1):71-81.

Chitwan Valley
Family Study

- West, B.T., Ghimire, D., & Axinn, W.G. "Evaluating a Modular Design Approach to Collecting Survey Data using Text Messages: Evidence from Nepal." *Survey Research Methods*, 9(2):111

Assignment 3 Due

STRUCTURED/UNSTRUCTURED INTERVIEW DATA COLLECTION PLAN

July 28
(Th)

Hybrid Methods:

- MM Chapter 6: Life History Calendars
 - LHC Exercise
- MM Chapter 7: Neighborhood History Calendar
- Liverman, D., Moran, E.F., Rindfuss, R.R., & Stern, P.C. 1998. "People and pixels: linking remote sensing and social science."
- Browning, C.R., & Soller, B. 2014. "Moving Beyond Neighborhood: Activity Spaces and Ecological Networks as Contexts for Youth Development." *Cityscape*, 16(1):165-196.
- Axinn, W.G. & Yabiku, S.T. 2001. "Social Chance, the Social Organization of Families, and Fertility Limitation." *American Journal of Sociology*, 106(5):1219-1261.
- Williams, Nathalie E., Dirgha J. Ghimire, William G. Axinn, Elyse A. Jennings, and Meeta S. Pradhan. 2012. "A Micro-Level Event-Centered Approach to Investigating Armed Conflict and Population Responses." *Demography*, 49(4):1521-1546.

Analyzing Hybrid
Data

Assignment 4 Due

HYBRID METHOD DATA COLLECTION

July 29
(F)

Longitudinal
Approaches

- MM Chapter 7: Longitudinal Data Collection
- Axinn, W.G., Jennings, E.A., & Couper, M.P. 2014. "Response of Sensitive Behaviors to Frequent Measurement." *Social Science Research*, 49:1-15.
- Global Girls Research Initiative, Technical Proposal

Future Directions

- MM Chapter 8: Conclusion
- Mneimneh, Z.N., Axinn, W.G., Ghimire, D.J., Cibellil, K.L., & Alkaisy, M.S. 2014. "Conducting Surveys in Areas of Armed Conflict." Pp. 134-156 in *Hard-to-Survey Populations*, edited by R. Tourangeau, B. Edwards, T. P. Johnson, K. M. Wolter, and N. Bates. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Assignment 5 Due

COMBINED METHOD DATA COLLECTION PLAN

Additional Reading

- Bazeley, Patricia. 2003. "Chapter 14: Computerized Data Analysis for Mixed Methods Research," in *Handbook of Mixed Methods in the Social and Behavioral Research*, edited by A. Tashakkori and C. Teddlie. Thousand, CA: Sage.
- Belli, Robert F. 1998. "The Structure of Autobiographical Memory and the Event History Calendar: Potential Improvements in the Quality of Retrospective Reports in Surveys." *Memory* 6(4): 383-406.
- Fricke, Tom. 2005. "Taking culture seriously: Making the social survey ethnographic." Pp. 185-221 in *Discovering Successful Pathways in Children's Development: Mixed Methods in the Study of Childhood and Family Life*, edited by T. S. Weisner. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Massey, Douglas. 1987. "The Ethnosurvey in Theory and Practice." *International Migration Review* 21:1498-1522.
- Morgan, David L. 1996. "Focus Groups." *Annual Review of Sociology* 22:129-52.
- Newman, Isadore et al. 2003. "Chapter 6: A Typology of Research Purposes and its Relationship to Mixed Methods," Pp. 167-188 in *Handbook of Mixed Methods in the Social and Behavioral Research*, edited by A. Tashakkori and C. Teddlie. Thousand, CA: Sage.
- Onwuegbuzie, Anthony and Julie Combs. "Chapter 17: Emergent data analysis techniques in mixed methods research: a synthesis" Pp. 397-426 in *Issue Regarding Methods and Methodology*.
- Onwuegbuzie, Anthony J. and Nancy L. Leech. 2005. "Taking the "Q" out of Research: Teaching Research Methodology Courses without the Divide between Quantitative and Qualitative Paradigms." *Quality & Quantity* 29: 267-296.
- Onwuegbuzie, Anthony and Charles Teddlie. 2003. "Chapter 13: A Framework for Analyzing Data in Mixed Methods Research," Pp. 351-384 in *Handbook of Mixed Methods in the Social and Behavioral Research*, edited by A. Tashakkori and C. Teddlie. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Sampson, Robert J., Jeffrey D. Morenoff, and Thomas Gannon-Rowley. 2002. "Assessing "Neighborhood Effects": Social Processes and New Directions in Research," *Annual Review of Sociology* 28: 443-478.
- Sandelowski, Margarete. 2003. "Chapter 12 Tables or Tableaux? The Challenges of Writing and Reading Mixed Methods Studies," Pp. 321-350 in *Handbook of Mixed Methods in the Social and Behavioral Research*, edited by A. Tashakkori and C. Teddlie. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Sieber, Sam D. 1973. "The Integration of Fieldwork and Survey Methods." *American Journal of Sociology* 78(6):1335-1359.
- Tashakkori, A. and C. Teddlie. 1998. "Research Design Issues for Mixed Method and Mixed Model Studies." Pp. 41-58 in *Mixed Methodology: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. New York: Sage.
- Teddlie C and Tashakkori A. 2009. "Chapter 6: Generating Questions in Mixed methods Research" Pp. 109-136 in *Foundations of Mixed Methods Research*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Zeller, Richard A. "Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Techniques to Develop Culturally Sensitive Measures." Pp. 95-116 in *Methodological Issues in AIDS Behavioral Research*, edited by D. G. Ostrow and R. C. Kessler. New York: Plenum Press.