SHORT COURSE 2017: Qualitative Research Methods for Health Sciences

Research on Health and Society, part of the Division of Health Systems and Public Health, will be offering the Qualitative Research Methods for Health Sciences short course from July – November 2017.

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the role and philosophy of qualitative research methods within the broader research framework
- Be able to write a qualitative protocol
- Be able do a qualitative interview, understand the running of focus groups and be able to do observation research
- Be able to transcribe an interview and to prepare the material for analysis
- Be able to analyse qualitative data using a content analysis approach
- Be able to write a qualitative report

The course is offered using a combination of lecturing and practical training in qualitative methods of data gathering and analysis. Theoretical material will be covered in the mornings and the afternoons will be used for practical training in interviewing and analysis. A series of assignments will take the students through a mini qualitative research project. Due to the manner in which the material progresses over the period of the course, students will be expected to attend all sessions.

Teaching schedule 7–11 Aug full block days! (08:30 – 16:30)

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Content</th>
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<tr>
<td>Background to qualitative methods and the philosophy of thinking behind the methodology.</td>
<td>Introduction to doing depth interviews. Issues of sampling, preparing a discussion schedule.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing a qualitative protocol. Focus group interviewing. Participant observation.</td>
<td>Practical training in doing depth interviews</td>
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<td>Practical training in doing depth interviews</td>
<td>Analysis of qualitative data and report writing. Alternative theoretical approaches to qualitative research. Practical training in doing depth interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integration of qualitative methods in a broader methodological set. Doing critical reviews of qualitative research. Experience in doing focus groups</td>
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Additional prerecorded lectures will be made available on Sun learn.

Evaluation
- 3 written assignments during semester
- 1 take-home exam (48 hours to complete)

Prerequisites
- Honours level qualification with some research training
- MBCHB or equivalent degree
- Bachelors degree with at least 3 years of direct research experience

The course is accredited for HPCSA:
- 30 General CPD points in level 3
- 1 Ethics point in level 2m

Cost: R3 300
Cost Point: R2020 project no: 002

Closing date of applications: 15 July 2017

All students to apply on-line. Please see below for the link:

Please contact Mrs Tracey Pietersen (traceyp@sun.ac.za) or Dr Donald Skinner (dskinner@sun.ac.za) if you have any enquiries.

The development of this short course was supported by funding from the SURMEPI project.