

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## SOC 552: Qualitative Methods

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

This course is about qualitative research methods (QRM's). Its key foci are on ethnographic observation, face-to-face interviewing, and thematic analysis. It examines the epistemological foundations for qualitative research in the social sciences, research design, structured observation, data gathering and analysis, presentation, and ethics. The class is reading, writing, and research intensive.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 05/05/2022 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Foundations of qualitative research methods
2. Validity concepts
3. The basics of research proposals
4. Techniques and limitations of qualitative different qualitative methods
5. Design, data gathering, data interpretation, and presentation
6. Understanding researcher bias
7. Writing qualitative papers and reports

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Understand the contributions of qualitative research to social science knowledge.
2. Demonstrate proficiency in research design, data gathering, analysis, and presentation.
3. Assess the validity of qualitative studies and understand the the components of QRM's validity.
4. Conduct ethical research.
5. Construct a qualitative study from from design to presentation.
6. Know the institutional requirements for ethical human subjects research, and how to create and submit a successful application to the Institutional Research Board.
7. Use qualitative research methods.
8. Assess personal biases and understand their importance in research.
9. Present research findings in reports and papers.
10. Capably conduct and present findings from an original research project that effectively applies qualitative methods.
11. Understand the Institutional Review Board's (IRB) requirements for ethical human subject research and to successfully create & submit an IRB application for an original qualitative research methods study.
12. Proficiently construct a QRM proposal from conceptualization to final design.

**E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

None

**F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted