

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## SOC 352: 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 provides advanced training in qualitative research through an applied approach whereby students carry out an original research project, from the initial conceptualization stage, through data collection and analysis, and writing the report, and presenting the findings. This advanced data analysis course provides training in several qualitative approaches in sociological research, with the central foci on ethnographic observations and depth interviewing.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 04/24/2002 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Competing paradigms in qualitative research.
2. Methodological foundations of qualitative research: Ontology, Epistemology, and Methodology.
3. Critical ethnography in qualitative research.
4. Grounded theory methods in qualitative research.
5. Qualitative interviewing.
6. Ethnographic methods in qualitative research.
7. Content analysis in qualitative research.
8. The ethics of informed consent for social research.
9. The role of theory in qualitative research.
10. The presentation of qualitative research.

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. This course will introduce students to the multitudinous qualitative approaches in the social sciences (ethnography, participant observation, content analysis, and in-depth interviewing). The central foci, however, are on participant observation and ethnographic & in-depth interviewing.
2. Student will study the epistemological foundation(s) that informs much of qualitative researches in the social sciences.
3. Students will consider ethical quandaries that are nascent to qualitative approaches.
4. Students will acquire the rudiments of conceptualization, research design, structured observations, data analyses, and presentation.
5. Students will extend the customary qualitative boundary by considering procedures in photographic cultural domain analysis and folk taxonomies.

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

None

**F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted