

PhD course

Introduction to Analysis in Qualitative Research, 2024

ECTS: 5

Teachers

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Course description

The course is split into two parts: The first part runs from August 21st to 23rd, and the second part runs on December 3rd and 4th. During the break between the two parts, students work independently and receive peer feedback on their analyses.

The course aims to introduce students to the analytical work of qualitative research and the process of writing about their findings. It pays particular attention to students' work with their own analyses. To take this course, students must have gathered some empirical material for their PhD dissertation. We will focus on the connection between analytical approaches, tools, and the practical process of analysing the material and writing up the material. These are considered integral aspects of the analysis.

The first part of the course focuses on introducing specific analytical approaches that are within the realm of linguistic analysis (discourse analysis) and analysis of meaning (grounded theory and phenomenology). The core concerns are: 1) the relationship between theory and empirical problem, 2) introduction of analytical approach, and 3) tools for practical analysis. During the course, students will collaborate and use each other's material to make relevant points in the analytical process.

Between the first and second parts of the course, students will work independently on their analyses, write about their results, and share their work in groups. The second part of the course will focus on the participants' analyses and manuscripts with feedback from peers and teachers to further improve the quality of the analysis and writing. This will also involve discussions about how the concrete analysis and findings are related to each dissertation's overall objectives and research questions.

The aim of this course is to provide students with:

- 1) A practical understanding of the importance of selecting an analytical approach in relation to the empirical findings.
- 2) Concrete tools and a practical introduction to analysing empirical data within a qualitative study.
- 3) Knowledge on how to write about the results as an integral part of the analysis.
- 4) An opportunity to receive feedback on a specific section of an article or dissertation chapter, including an evaluation of the results and their implications.

Please notice:

- The course focuses on qualitative research projects.
- Priority is given to PhD students at Business and Social Sciences, Aarhus University.
- To receive ECTS credits, participants are required to attend both parts of the course and complete the group work that takes place between the two parts.
- Participants must submit a brief description of their research project (2–3 pages) two weeks prior to Day 1 of the course. The description should include background information, project aims, materials and methods, anticipated results, perspectives, and main challenges. Please upload the description to the course site, which you will receive a link and password for upon admission to the course.