

PhD course

Introduction to Analysis in Qualitative Research

(5 ECTS)

Teachers

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Course description

The course is divided into two parts: The first part will take place on 14 through 16 September, the second part on 7 and 8 December 2020. The students will work independently, and they will receive peer feedback on analyses between the two parts of the course.

The aim of the course is to introduce the students to the analytical work of qualitative research and to the process of writing about their results/findings. Particular attention will be paid to the students' work with their own analyses. It is therefore an essential prerequisite that students have already collected at least some empirical material for their PhD thesis. Special emphasis will be placed on how analytical approaches, tools, and writing relate as these are considered integral aspects of the analysis.

Moreover, this course highlights how the choice of analytical approach is linked to the empirical material through the integration of theoretical assumptions and concepts, and it emphasizes the importance of the writing process as a significant part of the analysis.

The first part of the course is structured around introducing specific analytical approaches within the range of linguistic analysis (e.g., discourse analysis) and analysis of meaning (e.g., grounded theory/coding, phenomenology). The main topics are: 1) relationship between theory and empirical issues, 2) introduction to analytical approaches, and 3) tools for the practical handling of analyses. Students will be working with each other and each other's material to make the points relevant to the analytical process.

In the time between the first and second part of the course, the students will work independently on their analyses, write about their results, and share their work in groups. In the second part of the course, the participants' analyses and manuscripts will be the central focus including feedback from peers and teachers to further improve the quality and writing of the analysis - and discussions about how the concrete analysis and findings are related to each dissertation's overall objectives and research questions.

The course aims to provide:

- 1) Practical understanding of the significance of choosing an analytical approach in relationship to the results/findings of the empirical work.
- 2) Concrete tools and a practical introduction to the analysis of empirical data within a qualitative study.
- 3) Know-how for writing about the results as an integral part of the analysis.
- 4) An opportunity to get feedback on a concrete, prepared part of an article or dissertation chapter, including feedback on the quality of its results and implications.

Please note the following:

- The course focuses on qualitative research projects.
- PhD students at Aarhus BSS, School of Business and Social Sciences, Aarhus University, are given priority.
- Participants are required to attend both parts of the course – and the between-parts group work – to receive ECTS credits.
- **No later than two weeks prior to Day 1 of the course**, participants are required to upload a brief description (1-2 pages) of their research project (including background, aims of the project, materials and methods, anticipated results, perspectives, and main challenges of the project) to the course's **Blackboard** site. Participants from outside Aarhus University will receive a link and a password to Blackboard by e-mail.