



THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

## Course title: PUBH7003 Qualitative Methods in Health

**Course coordinator:** [Associate Professor Jon Adams](#)

**Mode:** Internal and External Flexible Delivery

### Course introduction:

Qualitative research is becoming popular in the examination of health and health care issues and a range of qualitative methods have become increasingly accepted as providing valuable information for health researchers. In addition to theoretically informed discussion of a number of major issues in qualitative health research, this course also provides practical guidance regarding qualitative research design, qualitative data collection methods, qualitative data analysis and writing up qualitative research. Teaching methods include seminars, workshops and practical exercises.

### Course aims:

The aims of this course are: 1. to provide an overview of the interpretive paradigm and core theoretical underpinnings 2. to introduce students to important methodological and ethical issues facing qualitative health research 3. to learn how to design and conduct qualitative fieldwork methods (such as qualitative interviews, focus groups, document analysis and ethnography) 4. to learn how to analyse qualitative research data and disseminate/present findings.

### Course content:

Specific topics include:

- Methodological issues in qualitative research
- Qualitative interviews
- Focus groups
- Document/text analysis
- Observational fieldwork
- Ethnography
- Qualitative data analysis
- Ethical issues in qualitative research
- Rigour and critical appraisal of qualitative research
- Writing up and publishing qualitative health research

### Method of assessment:

There are two written assignments.

### Recommended text:

Hansen EC (2006) *Successful Qualitative Health Research*. Sydney: Allen & Unwin.

Rice PL & Ezzy D (2000) *Qualitative Research Methods: a health focus*. Melbourne: Oxford University Press.

### Required resources:

**Study guide:** This contains the week-by-week learning materials for each module. These include clear learning objectives, the required reading, introduction, a brief synopsis and key definitions, case studies, and then a series of practical exercises.

**Online Blackboard site:** This provides an interactive environment for you and teachers. Reliable and regular access to the Internet is required.

Further details are provided in the [Course Profile](#)::  
[http://www.uq.edu.au/study/course.html?course\\_code=PUBH7003](http://www.uq.edu.au/study/course.html?course_code=PUBH7003)