



Bergen Summer Research School

› Global Development Challenges

Climate, Environment and Energy

22 June- 3 July 2009

Course 3: Doing Mixed Methods Research on Climate Interacting with Poverty, Health and Culture, (HEMIL-UiB)

Course Leaders

Maurice B. Mittelmark, professor, Centre for Health Promotion (HEMIL)-UiB

Gro Th. Lie, Professor, Centre for Health Promotion (HEMIL)

Elisabeth Fosse, Associate Professor, Centre for Health Promotion (HEMIL)

Course Description, Goals and Objectives:

This course will focus on study designs for the conduct of individual studies, and programmes of study, suitable for research in the context of climate as a force for change in poverty, health and culture. Researchers working in these arenas have traditionally gravitated towards either quantitative or qualitative research, and few researchers have all the skill needed to combine successfully the two approaches. Yet this situation is changing, and mixed methods research is finding acceptance by peers, funding agencies and journal editors. The appeal is that research combining qualitative and

quantitative traditions may offer valuable insight about phenomena that would escape a researcher working in just one or the other tradition.

This doctoral level course will be comprised of lectures, group work, seminars and a paper. Using their own research, background and experience, and the course readings as the main resources, the students will address three seminar topics, with students taking responsibility for preparing and leading the seminars:

1. "Pros and cons of conducting mixed methods research in doctoral research"
2. "Challenges in judging the quality of reports of mixed methods research"
3. "Communicating the advantages of mixed methods to skeptical audiences"

Outline of lectures and other activities:

Day 1

Overview of course, introductions of faculty and students, objectives, learning methods, course paper (Mittelmark, 1400-1600)

Day 2

Mixed-methods lecture I (Mittelmark, 1000-1100)

Group work, seminar preparation, with faculty tutors (all faculty, 1130-1300)

Day 3

Lecture -- Mixed-methods research: Interpersonal ties and community mental health

(Mittelmark, 1000-1100)

Group work, seminar preparation, with faculty tutors (all faculty, 1130-1300)

Lecture -- Mixed-methods lecture II (Mittelmark, 1400-1500)

General discussion (all faculty, 1500-1600)

Day 4

Mixed-methods research: Policy processes for human development (Fosse, 1000-1100) Group work, seminar preparation, with faculty tutors (all faculty, 1130-1300) Mixed-methods research: Multi-cultural venues for health and development (Lie, 1400-1600)

Day 5

Lecture -- Mixed-methods lecture III (Mittelmark, 1200-1300)

Group work, seminar preparation, with faculty tutors (all faculty, 1400-1600)

Day 6

Seminar 1, presented by students (all faculty, 1000-1100)

Seminar 2, presented by students (all faculty, 1130-1230)

Seminar 3, presented by students (all faculty, 1400-1500)

Day 7

Topics and activities to be agreed during week, based on learning issues that are priorities for the students (all faculty, 1130-1300 and 1400-1600)

Required reading list:

NOTE! It is essential that the reading be completed prior to the start of the course.

Required Reading, Methods (draft, subject to change)

Johnson B, Onwuegbuzie (2004). Mixed methods research: A research paradigm whose time has come. *Educational Researcher*, 33(7), 14-26.

Teddlie C and Tashakkori A (2003). Major issues and controversies in the use of mixed methods in the social and behavioural sciences. In A Tashakkori and C

Teddlie (eds) (2003) *Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Research*. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications. pp 3-50

Creswell JW, Clark VLP, Gutman ML, Hanson WE (2003). Advanced mixed methods research designs. In A Tashakkori and C Teddlie (eds) (2003) *Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social and Behavioral Research*. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications. pp 209-240.

Examples:

Three mixed methods papers, yet to be chosen, on the themes mentioned in the title of the course.

Prerequisites:

Students are expected to have taken at least one graduate-level overview course in research methods.

Students, ECTS, Work Required:

We welcome doctoral students whose dissertations involve mixed methods, or who simply have curiosity about mixed methods approaches.

About 250 hours of work is required (10 ECTS), inclusive all Bergen Summer School activities (this course plus plenary activities). Preparatory work

includes completing the Required Reading prior to arrival in Bergen. Each student is to deliver a 10-page paper (double-spaced) on the topic "My Dissertation reconsidered from the perspective of Mixed-Methods Research", within four weeks after the end of the course. The paper will receive careful attention from the Course Leaders and written feedback will be provided. Working in three groups, students will take responsibility for preparing and leading seminars as described above. The Course Leaders will participate as tutors in group work sessions, will attend the seminars, and will comment on the seminars and accompanying discussions. The activities of this course will be interspersed with Summer School Plenary Sessions, Plenary Panel Debates, exhibitions, tours, sightseeing, etc, that all Summer School participants and faculty members will engage in.