College of Social Sciences

PSYC 2220 section 01

Qualitative Research Methods

Fall 2019

Instructor Information
Instructor: Dr. Christine Simmonds-Moore
Class Meeting/Time & Location Tuesday and Thursdays
12.30-1.45 in Pafford 102
Office Location: Melson 215
Telephone (direct) 678 839 5334 you can also text (678) 390-5033
Telephone (department) Office Hours by appointment
https://calendar.google.com/calendar/selfsched?sstoken=UUhyOE9VM3dxVVFtfGRIZmF1bHR8NmZjOTcyZDk5OTQ2ODQ2YjUyMDZmODQ5NWE1OTAwNDA
Westga email csimmond@westga.edu

Support for courses
*Hyperlinks provided for accessibility throughout; full URLs are available at the end of the document.

CourseDen D2L Home Page
CourseDen Help (8 AM – 5 PM)
Call: 678-839-6248 or 1-855-933-8946 or email: online@westga.edu

24/7/365 D2L Help Center
Call 1-855-772-0423

University Bookstore
Student Services

Course Information
Course Description
This course provides an historical and philosophical overview of the foundations of qualitative research methodology as well as the major research strategies and design in qualitative research. This course is intended for undergraduate students planning to conduct qualitative research.

Texts, Readings, Instructional Resources, and References
Required Text

August 14, 2019
We will also be reading other primary source materials and pdfs of book chapters, which are available via courseden.

**Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will have knowledge of historical and philosophical foundations of qualitative research
2. Students will have knowledge of a variety of qualitative research methods relevant to psychology
3. Students will have experience conducting qualitative research
4. Students will have experience analyzing several forms of qualitative data

**Assignments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orientation quiz</td>
<td>Students should read over the syllabus and familiarize themselves with the course requirements and assessments, then complete the quiz. The quiz is ungraded but students need to achieve 100% prior to moving forward with this class.</td>
<td>By the 20th August</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matching assignment quiz</td>
<td>What is the best fit for a series of example research projects in terms of different methodologies. Matching quiz via courseden.</td>
<td>Due by 5th September</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics training (CITI)</td>
<td>CITI training is provided via the ORSP website and will allow students an applied knowledge of ethics and ethical practice in research.</td>
<td>Submit CITI certificate (screenshot or pdf) by 19th September</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literature search and summary (toward a literature review)</strong></td>
<td>Using the library’s databases for psychology, find 4 research articles that have explored a topic that you find interesting in psychology. Summarize each study. What are the limitations and strengths of each study? Propose a new (qualitative) study that would add to this body of research.</td>
<td>Due in class as an electronic copy (plus pdfs of articles reviewed) in the assignment dropbox by 24th September</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data collection and analysis assignments</strong></td>
<td>There are 4 data collection and analysis assignments. For each, you should include the data that you and your group collected, your analysis and a reflection on the advantages and disadvantages of this method (see rubric on coursden).</td>
<td>Each assignment is worth 10% 1) Thematic analysis (analysis of horoscopes) – 10th October 2) Narrative analysis (dreams) – 22nd October 3) IPA (interviews on attitudes toward the paranormal) – 5th November 4) Grounded theory (Near Death Experiences) – 21st November</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final Exam (MCT)</strong></td>
<td>A final exam will consist of multiple choice questions worth 1 point each, The final exam will be comprehensive and cover all 15 weeks of material.</td>
<td>The final exam will be available during exam week (December 7-13). The MCT should be completed by 11.30 PM on 13th December.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Participation and attendance</strong></td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>--</td>
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<td>100</td>
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</tbody>
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Assignments should be submitted as a hard copy to your professor AND via the assignment drop box on coursden which is enabled for Turnitin (see note about plagiarism and Turnitin below).

**Grading Information and Policy**

Grading structure and point scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80% - 89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70% - 79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60% - 69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The orientation module quiz, will be graded automatically. You must score 100% on the syllabus quiz before you can access the rest of the course – you are allowed to take the syllabus quiz multiple times. Assignments are accepted late with a 10% penalty per day late. Exams and quizzes must be completed by the due date.

**Grading Rubrics**

Rubrics are available on courseden.

Please see the [Common Language for Course Syllabi](#) for official information on UWG’s Academic Integrity Policy.

**Plagiarism and Turnitin**

When someone presents another person’s ideas (written or spoken) as their own, this is plagiarism. See [http://www.plagiarism.org/plagiarism-101/what-is-plagiarism/](http://www.plagiarism.org/plagiarism-101/what-is-plagiarism/). Prior to submitting your work, please read it over (and ask a friend to do so) and make sure that you are presenting your ideas using your own words. If you are describing the work of others, make sure that you include citations to their work. Turnitin is some electronic software (that is tied to the dropbox in courseden) that allows you and your professor to check the originality in your written work and it can help you to avoid plagiarism. Although assignments are due in during class time, I will also ask you to submit your assignments via the assignment dropbox in courseden. It is highly unlikely that you will get an originality report of 0 – but the reports will be color coded, and a higher score (above 25% similarity) implies that your work is less original, you should aim for a low score (this means that your work is more original). Plagiarism is a serious issue. If plagiarism is detected in your work, you will automatically fail the assignment, and may fail the course.

**Communication Rules**

**Communication Rules:**

If you have a question about a grade, please email me using the email within the courseden system. You can organize an office hour appointment in person or via email or the telephone. Office hours appointments can be booked directly via google calendar and are 30 minutes in length.

**Classroom Etiquette:**

Please read the short list of tips below:

- Be sensitive and reflective to what others are saying in classroom discussions and peer exercises.
- Keep the dialogue collegial and professional.
- Please arrive at the classroom in a timely manner. Being late is distracting for your peers and your professor.
- Do not use social media/electronic devices unless invited to do so as part of a classroom assignment. Use of devices at other times is distracting for your peers and your professor.
- If you need to leave the class early, please let the professor know at the start of the class or via email prior to the class as a courtesy. Try to sit near to the door.
- If you are consistently late to class (more than 3 times) this will equate to an absence.
- If you miss more than 3 classes, this will affect your final grade for the class.
Expected Response Times

I will endeavor to grade your assignments in a timely manner. I will make every attempt to return major assignments within 7-10 days, but the amount of feedback required may extend that time. Shorter assignments will be graded within 5 days of submission. MCT quizzes will be automatically graded.

Expectations of Students

Course Structure:

This class.....

Special components:

science and computer labs, tutorials, computer classroom, Instructional Support Services Lab, and other

Other information

A lot of this course relies on your participation in your group. Please make sure that you obtain contact information for the other members of your group and meet the data deadlines so that your group members can be successful in this class.

You can email me at csimmond@westga.edu or via email within courseden
I can only discuss grades using Courseden, or in a face to face meeting.

Link to the site of the registrar’s office which contains important dates concerning add/drop and withdrawal http://www.westga.edu/registrar/802.php

What to do if you miss your final exam

If you miss your final exam and prior arrangements have not been made, you may receive a grade of F on that exam or paper and this may affect your final grade in the class. If you miss your exam due to an emergency, please contact the Psychology office at (678)839-6510 or go to Melson Room 123 as soon as possible to complete the application: “Missed Final Exam: Verification of Emergency”. This form will need to be approved by the chair for an incomplete grade which may allow you the time to make up your exam or complete your final assignments. This application will require documentation and authorization from you to verify your emergency.

Course and UWG Policies

Attendance Policy:

In order to distribute Title IV funding (federal student aid), student attendance verification is required. It is the student’s responsibility to sign the attendance sheet that will be circulated during each class. If you miss more than 3 classes, your grade will be affected for the grade item attendance and participation. Each class missed in addition to the 3 allowed absences will reduce participation points by 1 point within this grade category (e.g., 4 absences = 9, 5 = 8, 6 = 7, 7 = 6, 8 = 5, 9 = 4).

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:

If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act and require assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Office for Accessibility Services. UWG also provides Accessibility Statements for Technology that you may be required to use for this course.
Additional Support Information

Technical Support

Technical support for CourseDen, as well as the technological requirements, accessibility statements, privacy statements, tutorials, and other information can be found at Technology Requirements.

Center for Academic Success

The new Center for Academic Success (CAS) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. The CAS offers free appointment-based peer tutoring in core courses, as well as supplemental instruction (SI)—which is peer-facilitated collaborative learning—in a variety of disciplines. Students seeking help with study skills and strategies can attend workshops though the Academic Success Workshop series, or work individually with either a staff or peer Academic Coach. Beginning Fall 2014, the CAS will also offer “Back on Track,” a voluntary academic recovery program designed for students who want to improve their grades and academic standing. The Center for Academic Success is located in UCC 200, and can be reached at 678-839-6280. Our email address is cas@westga.edu.

Smarthinking

Smarthinking offers online tutoring services and resources (including the Writing Center) for UWG students/instructors in all courses. A link to Smarthinking is available in CourseDen under Resources in the navigation bar.

Student Services

Here is a great resource of Student Services for all students at UWG, whether or not they are taking online courses. This link provides students with most of the information they need. If a student is experiencing distress and needs some help, check out UWG Cares.

Full URL Support for Courses

- CourseDen D2L Home Page
  https://westga.view.usg.edu/
- CourseDen Help (8 AM – 5 PM)
  https://uwgonline.westga.edu/uwg-online-student-help.php
- Email: online@westga.edu
- 24/7/365 D2L Help Center
  https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/
- University Bookstore
  http://www.bookstore.westga.edu/
- Common Language for Course Syllabi
  https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php
- UWG Cares
  http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/
- Accessibility Services
  https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php
- Student Services
  http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php
- Center for Academic Success
  http://www.westga.edu/cas/
● Distance Learning Library Services
  https://www.westga.edu/library/resource-sharing.php
● Ingram Library Services
  http://www.westga.edu/library/
● Proctored Exams
  http://uwgonline.westga.edu/exams.php#student
● UWG Accessibility Statements for Technology
  https://docs.google.com/document/d/16Ri1XgaXiGx28ooOzRvYPrav3Ag3F5NZJYbVDBGvNeA/edit?ts=57b4c82d#heading=h.yrqeFfivts1f

*This syllabus is subject to minor alterations and amendments