

1.	Program	BS Political Science			
2.	Title	Advance Research Methods			
3.	Semester	6 th			
4.	Code	PS 314			
5.	Rating	03 Credit Hours			
6.	Type	Core Course			
7.	Prerequisites				
8.	Introduction	<u>Qualitative Research Methodology</u> This course is designed to train students in qualitative research methodology, from conceptualization, through design and data collection processes for use in their studies. It includes a thorough discussion of qualitative research design and the role of theory in guiding and informing research design. The course begins with research problems, questions and design considerations. The course follows with training, through lecture, group work and hands-on experiences, in four data collection methods commonly used in qualitative research--observation, interview, focus group and use of documents and archival data. Students will undertake a pilot research study as part of the course requirements and as a means of trying out their research conceptualizing and data collection skills. The exercises are intended to develop the mindset required to think through, design, and execute a qualitative study.			
9.	Objectives	This course is an introduction to qualitative research methods—conceptualization, design and data collection procedures—with a special focus on research in international relations. Through this course, students will: • learn about the nature and application of qualitative research in social sciences. • learn to conceptualize qualitative research and to formulate problem statements and research questions • learn how to design a qualitative research study • learn about qualitative data collection procedures--observation, interviews, focus group interviews, and collection and use of documents and archival data • apply their research design and data collection skills by undertaking a pilot research study.			
10.	Contents	<table><tr><td>Week 1</td><td>Overview. Course purpose, objectives, and requirements. What is</td></tr></table>		Week 1	Overview. Course purpose, objectives, and requirements. What is
Week 1	Overview. Course purpose, objectives, and requirements. What is				

			qualitative research? How do qualitative and quantitative research designs differ?
		Week 2	Research design. Types of research design.
		Week 3	Research design. Procedures for designing and setting up a qualitative research study. Conceptual Frameworks, Research questions, validity in data gathering
		Week 4 & 5	Starting a study: entry into the field; developing rapport; role of the researcher; confidentiality; collecting background information, sampling, and Validity in data gathering.
		Week 6 & 7	Interviews. Types of interviews (structured to unstructured). How to design interview questions; how to conduct interviews
		Week 8	Observations. Taking notes, following up issues, developing a sequence Types of observation procedures. How to observe and focus. Use of observation guides.
		Week 9	Mid Term Exam
		Week 10	Focus groups. Design, conduct and analysis of focus group interviews
		Week 11	Action Research
		Week 12-13	Documents and archival data. Definition, review of sources and types of data, methods of collection and analysis. Integrating and synthesizing data, reflexivity.
		Week 14	Qualitative Data Analysis Tool: Nvivo Introduction
		Week 15	Mixed Methods Research
		Week 16	Discussion of pilot study experiences and results
		Week 17	Open and Advanced Issues, Final Summary
		Week 18	Final Term Exam
11.	Outcome		
12.	Recommended Books / Reference	These books have been selected to provide an in-depth understanding of the issues involved in conducting qualitative research, including design and the various methods of gathering and organizing data. Students should consider these books as a foundation for their professional library in qualitative methods. Berg, B. L. & Lune, H. Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences, 8th edition, Boston: Pearson, Allyn& Bacon. 2012 Creswell, J. W., Qualitative inquiry and research design, 2nd edition. Sage Publications. 2013.	

	Maxwell, J.A. Qualitative Research Design. Sage Publications, 2nd edition, 2013 Rubin, H. J. & Rubin, I. S. Qualitative Interviewing: The Art of Hearing Data, Sage Publications, 3rd edition, 2012. Seidman, I. E. Interviewing as Qualitative Research, Teachers College Press, 4rd edition. Yin, R. K. Case Study Research. Sage Publications, 4th edition, 2009.
--	--