



Department of Psychology

Psychology 611 (L01) – Advanced Research Analysis in Qualitative and Historical Psychology

Winter 2008

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Office Hours: By appointment

Lecture Location: TBA
Lecture Days/Time: TBA

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Course Description and Goals

This course deals with historical and qualitative research methods and analyses in psychology. Although non-traditional, they are nonetheless associated with long traditions and have emerged as complicated methodological forms in their own right. We will cover a representative subset of qualitative methods, as the varieties of available methods are too numerous for a course of this nature. You will be exposed to (a) the philosophy of qualitative research, (b) historical analyses (broadly speaking) and, (c) one qualitative approach that has gained considerable interest within psychology, discourse analysis, along with background developments associated with the positions. One-half of the course will be devoted to each approach. For each portion of the course, there will be assigned readings and a small assignment designed to provide experience with each type of analysis.

Required Text

Readings will be assigned. They will either be available through the library or the course instructors.

Evaluation

The final course grade will be based on two lab assignments, each worth 20%, two presentations of the lab assignments, each worth 10%, and a final paper that will address some aspect of the areas discussed in the course, worth 40%. These must be submitted in print form.

Lab assignment #1 will be due the week of March 3.

Lab assignment #2 will be due the week of April 21.

Final paper will be due April 25.

Lecture Schedule

Week of Jan. 14	Intro to the generation of new methods
Week of Jan. 21	Relationship between theory and methods
Week of Jan. 28	Historical methods - archives
Week of Feb. 4	Other historical approaches to research
Week of Feb. 11	Other historical approaches to research cont.
Week of Feb. 18	No classes – Reading Week
Week of Feb. 25	History project presentation
Week of March 3	Interviewing and focus groups
Week of March 10	Background to discourse analysis
Week of March 17	Discourse analysis cont.
Week of March 24	Discourse analysis cont.
Week of March 31	Discourse analysis cont.
Week of April 7	Discourse analysis cont.
Week of April 14	Discourse project presentation

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.

If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within fifteen days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and **have not** registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic

accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is January 25, 2008. The last day to withdraw from this course is April 18, 2008.