

INTRODUCTION TO QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

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THOUGHT EXERCISES

1. Identify areas of your research that you be best investigated through qualitative research

2. Articulate the rationale for using qualitative methods in this project (*Is it formative research? Validation research? Investigative research?*)

3. What kinds of data do you need answer your research question?

4. What method(s) might your use to get these data? Why? What are the advantages/disadvantages of these methods?

5. What kind of purposeful sampling strategy might you use to capture these data?

6. Familiarization (& Inductive Coding): What topics or issues related to mentorship appear in your example?

7. How might you organize these topics into a “thematic framework”?

8. Indexing (& Deductive Coding): What do you find when you index the data using these codes?

9. ... although this is very very very preliminary... how might you make sense of these data?

RESOURCES:

- **Introduction to Qualitative Methods videos** at <https://t.uga.edu/50u> (26:14 total) – One of a series of Educational Research Methods Videos produced by CIRTL at the University of Georgia in conjunction with BioTAP. Find them all at <https://seercenter.uga.edu/resources/methods/>
- **Patton’s 40 Purposeful Sampling Strategies** by saravaca at Visual Brains: <http://www.saravaca.com/project/pattons-40-purposeful-sampling-strategies/>
- **Framework Analysis** -- Ritchie, J. and L. Spencer (2002). "Qualitative data analysis for applied policy research." The qualitative researcher’s companion **573**(2002): 305-329.
- **Primer on Framework Analysis** <https://www.coursera.org/lecture/qualitative-methods/5-3-framework-analysis-Yh6UL>
- **Coding** -- Saldaña, J. (2015). The coding manual for qualitative researchers, Sage.