



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 36720

Name: Qualitative Research Techniques

Cycle: Undergraduate Studies

ECTS Credits: 6

Academic year: 2026-27

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1335 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences	Facultat de Dret	2	Second quarter
1930 - Double Degree Programme in Law and Political and Public Admin. Sciences	Facultat de Dret	2	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1335 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences	Técnicas de investigación cualitativas	COMPULSORY
1930 - Double Degree Programme in Law and Political and Public Admin. Sciences	Asignaturas obligatorias de segundo curso	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

GRAU MUÑOZ ARANZAZU

SUMMARY

The course aims to provide students with the basic notions of qualitative analysis of social research. Special emphasis is placed on the techniques of critical discourse analysis. That is, it is assumed that students already know the basic procedures of qualitative research design (definition of a research problem, qualitative objectives, characteristics of structural sampling, design of a script for individual and group interviews). These previous contents are updated in this course and, subsequently, special emphasis is given to the techniques of qualitative analysis assisted by computer programs. In this way, students learn to code and recode qualitative analysis material (textual, audiovisual, etc.) and to interpret the social meanings that emerge from such coding processes. They also learn to connect the codes and reinterpret them through the elaboration of semantic networks. Subsequently, they learn to use co-occurrence tables to detect, eventually, latent dimensions and thus deepen the qualitative analysis. In other words, students learn that qualitative analysis is the result of successive approaches to the object of study and of a continuous refinement of the initial codes and concepts of analysis. The conceptual contents of this course are those present in current academic and professional practices of qualitative discourse analysis. In this sense, it provides the basic knowledge to carry out empirical research works related to political science, as well as it lays one of the foundations to prepare, in the future, final degree works.



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The course "University, Research and Politics" (36708) is the background course required to take "Qualitative Research Techniques".

There are no specific requirements for this course. However, it is recommended to have a comprehensive reading ability and a correct oral and written expression in Spanish and Valencian.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

1335 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences

Análisis de información para evaluar problemas políticos o de gestión pública y elaborar propuestas de mejora

Pensamiento crítico.

Saber elaborar informes, dictámenes y trabajos de investigación política.

Saber utilizar los métodos y técnicas de análisis cuantitativos y cualitativos, así como el método comparativo.

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving in their field of study.

Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.

Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of autonomy.

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.

Trabajo en equipo.



DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Qualitative data collection methods

Interview design, structural sampling, techniques for conducting individual and group interviews (focus groups, triangular consensus groups); search for secondary qualitative data (textual and audiovisual public speeches, other types of audiovisual and textual material as a source of speech analysis, as well as photographs, audios, press material, publications in social networks, etc.).

2. Theoretical criteria and practical procedures of qualitative analysis

Qualitative analysis from the epistemology of discourse systems.
Techniques of qualitative content analysis through computer programs (Atlas.ti / MAXQDA, Nvivo; etc.).

3. Computer programs

Techniques of qualitative content analysis through computer programs (Atlas.ti / MAXQDA, Nvivo; etc.).

4. Techniques of qualitative analysis of discourses through computer programs

Techniques of qualitative analysis of discourses through computer programs (Atlas.ti / MAXQDA, Nvivo; etc.) of textual, graphic and audiovisual material. The following procedures will be studied using some of these computer programs:

- Organization of the empirical material (textual, audiovisual, etc.) 4.1.
- 4.2. Qualitative analysis of word clouds.
- 4.3. Coding and recoding of the qualitative material. Thematic coding vs. discursive coding.
- 4.4. Elaboration, interpretation and analysis of semantic networks.
- 4.5. Elaboration, interpretation and analysis of tables of co-occurrences.
- 4.6. Interpretation of latent dimensions and emergent discourses.
- 4.7. Procedures for the elaboration of written reports based on qualitative data analysis by means of computer programs.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
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Attendance at other activities	5,00
Individual or group project	40,00
Independent study and work	25,00
Preparation of lessons	10,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	10,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The course is based on the use of computer programs to carry out qualitative analysis. Therefore, classes will be held in computer classrooms. Students are also required to use their own personal computer, outside class hours, to carry out the various practical tasks included in the course. The teaching methodology includes the following activities: lectures, case studies, solving exercises and problems, cooperative learning; comprehensive reading of texts and audiovisual materials; meetings, attendance to tutorials. Presentation by the professor and participation of the students based on the issues raised; practical classes based on the work previously done in the classroom by the students, individually and in groups. Exhibition of individual and group work. Tutoring activities. The teaching staff will explain the different topics and points that make up the program. Lectures will be continuously interspersed with practical activities and active participation of students in class. Each topic will be supported by basic bibliography and/or audiovisual resources (tutorials on the use of computer programs), together with textual/audiovisual material that is the object of qualitative analysis. In addition, a complementary bibliography will be provided, including texts that address the topics under study in greater depth or focus on specific aspects. In this way, it is intended to reinforce the knowledge acquired in class and provide a guide for the expansion of the topics that are of interest to students. Outside the course schedule, students will be required to attend and participate in complementary activities, conferences, etc., organized throughout the course.

EVALUATION

The evaluation of the course consists of three instances: First, the evaluation of the students' continuous work through a set of practical assignments carried out throughout the course. It represents 30% of the final grade. Secondly, the students will carry out a qualitative research work that includes all the parts of the research process (choice of a topic, problem statement, specification of objectives, elaboration of a qualitative sample, collection of qualitative empirical material, interpretation and analysis of the data through computer programs, elaboration of the final report with the results of the research). It represents 40% of the final grade. Its approval is mandatory. Thirdly, a content integration exam will be taken. It represents 30% of the final grade. Its approval is mandatory.

REFERENCES

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- Gordo López, A. y Serrano Pascual, A. (2008). Estrategias y prácticas cualitativas de



investigación social. Madrid, Pearson, Prentice Hall Zapata, R y Sánchez, E. (2011) Manual de investigación cualitativa en la Ciencia Política. Madrid, Tecnos

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