

MEDU204 Research Methods II: Qualitative Research Strategies

ECTS Value: 3 ECTS
Self-Study Hours: 50

Contact Hours: 15
Assessment Hours: 10

Overall Objectives and Outcomes

This module aims to develop learners' knowledge, skills and understanding of qualitative research methods in education. Learners will acquire the basics of qualitative research design and qualitative data collection methods including ethnographically inspired approaches to archival research and comparative methods, and analysis strategies. Particular emphasis will be placed on action research, recognising the need for teachers to acquire the skills, attitudes and knowledge necessary to facilitate reflexivity in practice. Learners will be encouraged to become creative, critical and reflexive practitioners through independent and collaborative work.

By the end of this module, the learner will be able to:

Competences:

- a. design an action research project adopting a qualitative study, from the design of research questions to qualitative research design and data collection;
- b. adopt relevant techniques for the systematic analysis and interpretation of educational qualitative data;
- c. understanding of the function, purpose and limitations of qualitative enquiry, its appropriate use, and its relevance to educational practice and research.

Knowledge:

- a. designing research for education with particular emphasis on action research;
- b. using qualitative research instruments for collecting data in educational contexts;
- c. employing qualitative analysis strategies.

Skills:

- a. critically evaluate and interpret research data;
- b. understand and apply reflexivity in research;
- c. actively investigate issues ethically.

Assessment Methods

This module will be assessed through: Action Research Proposal

Suggested Readings

1. Basit, T. N. (2013). Ethics, reflexivity and access in educational research: issues in intergenerational investigation, *Research Papers in Education*, Vol. 28, 4, pp.506-517.

2. Creswell, J.W. & Poth, (2018). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks,. CA: Sage.
3. McNiff, J. (2013) *Action research: Principles and Practice*, 3rd edition, Abgindon: Routledge.

Core Reading List:

1. Bryman, A. (2012). *Social Research Methods*, (4th ed). Oxford: OUP.
2. Crossley, M., Arthur, L, McNewss, E. (2016). *Revisiting Insider – Outside Research in Comparative and International Education*. Oxford: Symposium Books.