

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Collaborative and Participatory Methodologies

Course Number and Section

GSI

3001F 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Matthew McBurney

Instructor Email(s): mmcburn2@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course explores the ethical concerns raised by the major forms of qualitative research with human subjects: interviewing, focus groups, participant observation, ethnography and oral history. Special consideration is given to the ethical concerns raised by social scientific research in the context of inequality. Each student is responsible for designing a research project, applying appropriate research tools and working out the ethical problems raised by his or her project and research method(s).

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

1. Critically reflect on their position as researchers
2. Formulate a coherent research proposal, which includes research questions, scholarly relevance, justification, and methods
3. Identify and reflect on appropriate qualitative methodologies for their research
4. Consider ethical and other research dilemmas specific to development contexts by analyzing 'real-world' examples
5. Clearly communicate research results to relevant audiences
6. Practice descriptive and reflective writing in relation to their chosen research project

Textbooks and Course Materials:

The books below can be purchased, but they are also accessible as free, digital copies through the Western Library. Therefore, if you choose to use the digital copies available through Western Library, there is no cost to you as a student.

Berg, Bruce L. and Howard Lune. (2017). Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences. Ninth Edition. Boston: Pearson.

Laws, Sophie, Harper, Caroline, & Marcus, Rachel. (2003). Research for development: a practical guide. SAGE.

Scheyvens, Regina. (2014). Development Field Work: A Practical Guide, SAGE Publications,

Ltd.

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation and Attendance	Ongoing	30
Preliminary Research Question, Methods, and Bibliography	October	10
Research Problem Statement (Including justification, and scholarly relevance) and Reworked Methods	November	10
Final Research Presentation	November	20
Final Research Proposal	December	30

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Huron Brief Course Outline 2026/27

In-course Costs \$000.00

For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
 - Or include the weblink of the textbook’s publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.