

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Collaborative and Participatory Methodologies

Course Number and Section:

CGS

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 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:

To identify a research problematic and develop a course of research to address it

To work within the framework of the research proposal

To identify appropriate research methods for any research program

To identify the ethical dimensions of research with human subjects, and become adept at making your research questions, research practice, and research reporting ethically sound

To distinguish between 'instrumental' and 'emancipatory' research questions, programs and methods, in your own work and in the scholarship you study

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:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Attendance and Participation	Ongoing	30
Preliminary Research Question, Methods, and Bibliography	Oct 15-17	10
Research Problem Statement (Including justification, and scholarly relevance) and Reworked Methods	Nov 28-30	10
Final Research Presentation	Nov 25 or Dec 2	20
Final Research Proposal	Dec 9-11	30

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

Tuesday, July 29, 2025