



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2018

3,309: Qualitative Methods

ECTS credits: 3

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Central - Written examination (70%, 60 mins.)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (30%)

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[3,309,1.00 Qualitative Methods](#) -- Englisch -- [Dingwerth Klaus](#)

[3,309,3.00 Qualitative Methods: Independent Studies](#) -- Englisch -- [van Drongelen Wesley](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

The lecture targets students enrolled in the BIA programme.

Course content

The aim of this course is to make students familiar with the fundamentals of social science research. In particular, the course introduces students to the motivations, possibilities and limitations of so-called 'qualitative' research designs and methods, with the help of which researchers seek to generate knowledge through studying one or a few cases in depth. To achieve these aims, the course is structured into three major parts: description, explanation, and interpretation. At the end of the term, students will be able to distinguish between more and less solid qualitative studies; moreover, they will be able to design their own studies, e.g. when writing their bachelor's theses.

Course structure

The course consists of nine lectures and three tutorials. The fundamental challenges of 'small-n' research designs will be discussed as a part of the lectures and their understanding will subsequently be further deepened in the tutorials. The required reading for this lecture will be made available via "StudyNet" and should be prepared by the students before each session. The final exam includes a centralized exam and a term paper. The exam encompasses the material dealt with in the lectures, the tutorials and the required reading. Its aim is to test whether students have adequately understood the fundamental problems, themes and debates in relation to causal inference and interpretation, specifically the challenges of 'small-n' research designs.

Course literature

The required reading for this course will be made available via StudyNet. In addition, I recommend Joachim Blatter and Markus Haverland's textbook *Designing Case Studies* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan).

Additional course information

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s



1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination time and form

Central - Written examination (70%, 60 mins.)

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Extended Closed Book

The use of aids is limited; any additional aids permitted are exhaustively listed under "Supplementary aids". Basically, the following is applicable:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and mono- or bilingual dictionaries (no subject-specific dictionaries) without hand-written notes are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models and any electronic dictionaries are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as notebooks, tablets, PDAs, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

Supplementary aids

None.

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (30%)

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Term papers

- Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship.
- The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the APA or MLA standards. The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into the text in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C. (2017), Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien (12th ed., Cornelsen Schweiz).
- For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers both according to the MLA and the APA standard is never optional.
- Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.
- For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGORÉK R. et SCHINDLER B. (2018), Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende (6. Auflage), Zürich: Schulthess, or the recommendations of the Law School).

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English



Examination content

The final exam includes a centralized exam and a term paper. The **exam** encompasses the material dealt with in the lectures, the tutorials and the readings assigned as required reading for the lectures and tutorials. The aim of the exam is to test whether students have adequately understood the fundamental problems, themes and debates in relation to explanatory and interpretive "small-n" research designs and whether they can independently apply them to standard challenges related to the task of designing a qualitative study.

The **term paper** consists of one smaller assignment that need to be submitted during term time. The precise tasks will be communicated in the lectures and uploaded on the StudyNet pages for the course.

Examination relevant literature

All Texts listed as required reading on StudyNet until 13 December 2018 are relevant for the exam.

Please note

We would like to point out to you that this fact sheet has absolute priority over other information such as StudyNet, faculty members' personal databases, information provided in lectures, etc. When will the fact sheets become binding?

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral and grading form): from the start of the bidding process on 23 August 2018
- Information about decentral examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): after the 4th semester week on 15 October 2018
- Information about central examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): from the start of the enrolment period for the examinations on 05 November 2018

Please look at the fact sheet once more after these deadlines have expired.