



DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

K9F3032, Mixed Methods: Integration of Qualitative and Quantitative Data within Applied Health Research, 3 credits (hec)

Blandade metoder: Integrering av kvalitativa och kvantitativa data inom tillämpad hälsoforskning, 3 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Approval

This syllabus was approved by the The Committee for Doctoral Education on 2023-11-16, and was last revised on 2024-04-29. The revised course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2024.

Responsible department

Department of Global Public Health, Faculty of Medicine

Prerequisite courses, or equivalent

Students must be familiar with the basics of qualitative and quantitative research before joining the course.

Purpose & Intended learning outcomes

Purpose

Health research problems are complex phenomena with multiple dimensions which are difficult to assess using quantitative or qualitative methodologies alone. Mixed-methods research is a methodology that combines both qualitative and quantitative research allowing the researcher a more comprehensive understanding of the issue under study.

Mixed-methods pragmatic research designs provide strengths that offset the weakness of both quantitative and qualitative studies. This course will provide Ph.D students with the theoretical tools and practical experience to design, conduct and report mixed-methods studies in health research.

Intended learning outcomes

At the end of the course the students will:

1. Design a mixed-methods research question (s).
3. Apply different mixed-methods research designs to a health problem.
4. Write a mixed-methods research protocol.
5. Report the results of a mixed-method study.
6. Use mixed-methods to design and evaluate interventions studies.
7. Evaluate the quality of scientific manuscripts using mixed-methods designs.

Course content

1. Definitions of mixed-methods research.
2. Worldviews and mixed-methods research.
3. Writing a mixed-methods research protocol.
4. Choosing a mixed-methods design.
5. Integrating results in mixed-method studies.
6. Reporting and disseminating mixed-method studies.
7. Application of mixed-methods research in interventions studies.
8. Evaluating the quality of mixed-methods studies.

Forms of teaching and learning

The course will start by discussing the quantitative and qualitative research designs and how both research paradigms can be combined to strengthen each other. The course will combine face-to-face lectures, online practical assignments/discussions, self-study and oral presentations. Face-to-face lectures and other activities will be conducted once a week for a period of five weeks. Once a week lectures will allow the students to reflect on the given material and to apply this new knowledge to the practical assignments. Practical assignments will be discussed with the group and feedback will be given.

Language of instruction

The course is given in English

Grading scale

Pass (G) /Fail (U)

Compulsory components & forms of assessment

Compulsory components

Participation in the online practical assignments and discussion will be mandatory.

Forms of assessment

Course assignments and take home examination. Both will be graded as fail or pass. In order to pass the course, the student need to pass the assignments and the take home examination. The

course assignments will guide the students through the steps needed to design a mixed-methods protocol.

Take home examination. The aim of the examination is to test the students on what they have learned over the duration of the course and how well they can apply it. The take home examination will consist on open ended questions where the students will appraise the quality of published mixed-methods studies and the structure of mixed-methods protocols among other topics. The take home exam will have to be submitted through the KI online learning platform one week after the end of the course.

Course literature

1. Creswell W. Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research. Sage Publications, California, 2007
2. Leslie C. Primer on Statistical Interpretation or Methods: Mixed Methods in Biomedical and Health Services Research. Circ Cardiovasc Qual Outcomes. 2013;6:119-123.
3. Leech N. Writing publishable mixed research articles: Guidelines for emerging scholars in the health sciences and beyond. International Journal of Multiple Research Approaches. Vol. 5, Iss. 1, 2011.
4. Johnson, R. B., & Onwuegbuzie, A. J. (2004). Mixed methods research: A research paradigm whose time has come. Educational Researcher, 33(7), 14-26.
5. Burke R. Toward a Definition of Mixed Methods Research. Journal of Mixed Methods Research. 2007. 1: 112-113.
6. Teddlie, C. Mixed Methods Sampling : A Typology With Examples. Journal of Mixed Methods Research. 2007 1: 77.
7. Howe K. Mixed Methods, Triangulation and Causal Explanation. Journal of Mixed Methods Research. 2012. 6(2): 89-96.
8. Fielding N. Triangulation and Mixed Methods Designs: Data Integration With New Research Technologies. Journal of Mixed Methods Research. 2012. 6(2): 124-136.