

Communication and Information 643, Fall 2012
Com 420, 1:25 - 4:25 p.m. - Wednesday
Dr. Eric Haley

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Hours: By Appointment
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QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

***Course Description:* CCI 643 is a doctoral-level seminar which examines theory and application of qualitative research methods to research. We will explore the theoretical considerations underlying various interpretive paradigms and how those considerations translate into various research methods.**

As a graduate seminar the course is organized around a lecture/discussion format. It requires your regular informed participation, and your careful, critical reading of all assigned material for each week. Also, there may be times during the semester when you will be called upon to lead the class discussion, without any advanced notice.

In addition to your reading and participation in class discussion, there are two written assignments for the course. The topics and due dates are indicated on the seminar outline, and papers are due in class on the dates noted. Please note that **no late work is accepted.**

In general, papers are to be analytical and probing. The task is to examine the material in depth and to demonstrate your own independent thinking about the subject matter. To prepare each paper, it is necessary to have read carefully and critically all the material assigned not only for that week, but for all previous weeks as well. We will spend some class time discussing your papers.

Assigned readings are on electronic reserve via the UT Library.

For each week, the most relevant material from various sources has been assigned. I encourage you to read other sections of these sources as your time permits.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment 1

Select three journals in your field. Define your field in any way you choose. Examine the three journals for the past five years for qualitative research articles. Write a three-page report on the status of qualitative research in your field. Consider the topics addressed, authors, methods used, trends, explanations of qualitative approaches, whatever appears to be interesting and relevant. Make page four of your report a bibliography of the articles located. Minimum number of articles is eight. If you find fewer than eight, search wider (more journals) or deeper (more years). **Date Due: September 26**

Assignment 2

Do sufficient reading, fieldwork or interviewing to write a ten-page or more qualitative-based research proposal. Your proposal should address the purpose/goal of the research, justification for research, research questions, data gathering and analysis and time frame. This assignment requires some initial data collection and analysis. **Date Due: November 28**

No late work is accepted nor are extensions given for any of the three assignments, please. Missed assignments earn a grade of "0."

TENTATIVE SEMINAR SCHEDULE

8/22	An Overview of Qualitative Research	
8/29	Theoretical and Philosophical Considerations	
	Phenomenology	Gurwitsch - The Life World
	The Paradigmatic Underpinnings Of Qualitative Research	Gurwitsch - The Common Sense World Guba – The Paradigm Dialog
9/5	Methods: Interviewing	McCracken, <u>The Long Interview</u>
9/12	Methods: Focus Groups	Morgan, <u>Focus Groups as Qualitative Research</u>
9/19	Participant Observation	Jorgensen, <u>Participant Observation</u>
9/26	Projective Techniques	Soley, <u>Projective Techniques</u>
10/3	Qualitative Methods: Case Study	Yin, <u>Case Study Research</u>
10/10	Qualitative Design	Patton - Chapters 8 and 9 Treise, Taylor and Wells--How Recovering Haley, The Organization as Source
10/17	Analysis of Qualitative Data	In-Class Coding
10/24	Individual Work Time	
10/31	Analysis and Writing up Qualitative Data	
11/7	Workshop	
11/14	Workshop	
11/21	Workshop	
11/28	5 Minute Presentations of Proposal/Assignment 2 Due	

Books Needed: Check amazon.com first for better prices on new and used books.

Jorgensen, Danny L., Participant Observation: A Methodology for Human Studies (Sage)

- **ISBN-10:** 0803928777
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0803928770

Morgan, David, Focus Groups as Qualitative Research (Sage)

- **ISBN-10:** 0761903437
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0761903437

Yin, Robert, Case Study Research: Design and Methods (Sage)

- **ISBN-10:** 1412960991
- **ISBN-13:** 978-1412960991

Soley Lawrence, Projective Techniques for Social Science and Business Research (Southshore Press)

- **ISBN-10:** 0972051619
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0972051613

McCraeken, The Long Interview (Sage)

- **ISBN-10:** 0803933533
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0803933533

Consider the Following Books for Independent Reading:

Husserl, "Logical Investigations"

Schutz, Alfred, "Phenomenology of the Social World."

Berger, Peter and Thomas Luckmann, "The Social Construction of Reality."

Blummer, Herbert, "Symbolic Interactionism: Perspective and Method"