

Are you interested in doing health and medical research?
Would you like to know more about qualitative research?
Are you teaching yourself to do qualitative research and feeling alone?
You need...

INTRODUCING QUALITATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH a six-day short course in two workshops



This short course provides six days of workshops to help you *do* qualitative research and *think* critically and creatively about qualitative research. It is offered by the School of Public Health at the University of Sydney to enrolled students, but is also available as a short course for professional development students.

Qualitative research is on the rise in health and medicine. With origins in the social sciences, it is a naturalistic form of inquiry that seeks to understand things in context rather than in controlled or experimental conditions. Qualitative researchers talk with people, watch what people do, and gather documents and images. They conduct ongoing, detailed analyses of the resulting textual and visual data. They investigate and make arguments about the social world and how people make sense of it.

This Unit of Study overviews the field, and is particularly suitable for anyone new to qualitative research. While we will focus on health and medicine, it is a good general introduction, and people from other disciplines are very welcome! We will consider big questions about the nature and value of qualitative knowledge, investigate the relationship between qualitative inquiry and other forms of research, question the role of theory and the place of different disciplines in qualitative research, and consider issues of research quality. You will experiment with data collection (including interviews, focus groups and observation), use qualitative data management software, and try some basic forms of qualitative data analysis. You will practice writing answers to the kinds of questions asked by ethics committees, and meet and talk with working qualitative researchers and hear about their projects.

Enrolment information:

<http://www.health.usyd.edu.au/future/profdevelopment/index.php>

Course Information: Dr Stacy Carter carters@med.usyd.edu.au

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 31ST

2009 Dates: Six whole-day workshops on Friday March 13, Saturday March 14, Monday March 16, Friday May 8, Saturday May 9 & Monday May 11.