

## University of Nicosia, Cyprus

<b>Course Code</b> COMM-245	<b>Course Title</b> Narrative Methods in Communication Research	<b><u>ECTS Credits (ECTS)</u></b> 6
<b>Department</b> Languages	<b>Semester</b> Fall/ Spring	<b>Prerequisites</b>
<b>Type of Course</b> Elective	<b>Field</b> Communications	<b>Language of Instruction</b> English
<b>Level of Course</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle	<b>Year of Study</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecturer</b> Dr Christine Savvidou
<b>Mode of Delivery</b> face-to-face	<b>Work Placement</b> N/A	<b>Co-requisites</b> None

### *Objectives of the Course:*

Narrative methodology is a relatively new and exciting area of education and research which explores the stories told in our personal and public lives. As a research tool, narrative methods are playing an increasingly useful role in organizational and communication studies where much research involves the interpretation of ‘stories’ in some form. This methodology can be used to elicit, analyse and interpret interview, print or online stories for research projects. The course offers a practical orientation to research with guidelines for interpreting, collecting and analyzing the production of narratives in a variety of media. Objectives of the course include the following:

- To discuss the role of narrative methods in communication research;
- To analyse and explain theories, methodologies and methods used in narrative research;
- To utilize a range of methodologies and methods available in narrative research.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Define narrative and narrative research;
2. Discuss theories and principles of narrative research;
3. Utilize interview techniques to collect oral histories;
4. Apply different methods of analysis to narrative data;
5. Apply research skills to conduct a small scale narrative research study;
6. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical and political issues in narrative research

### *Course Contents:*

1. Why study narrative? Definitions of narrative and the ‘narrative turn’ in communication research
2. Narratives in organisations: types and functions
3. Finding and collecting narratives: stories in and about organisations;

4. Conducting interviews: preparing and transcribing oral histories
5. Methods of narrative analysis
6. Ethical & political issues in narrative research
7. Writing research: the researcher as narrator

*Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:*

Lectures, Class discussions, Practical exercises, Group project

*Assessment Methods:*

Homework, assignment, midterm exam, research project

*Required Textbooks/ Reading:*

<b>Authors</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
Barbara Czarniawska	Narratives in Social Science Research	Sage	2008	978-0-7619-4195-8

*Recommended Textbooks/Reading:*

<b>Authors</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
Yiannis Gabriel	Storytelling in Organizations: Facts, Fictions and Fantasies	Sage	2000	0198297068
David Boje	Narrative Methods for Organisational and Communications Research	Sage	2001	0761965866