



# UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

<b>Course Code</b> SOWK-341	<b>Course Title</b> SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH METHODS II	<b>ECTS Credits</b> 6
<b>Department</b> Social Sciences/Social Work Programme	<b>Semester</b> Spring	<b>Prerequisites</b> SOWK-340
<b>Type of Course</b> Required	<b>Field</b> Social Work	<b>Language of Instruction</b>
<b>Level of Course</b> 1st Cycle	<b>Year of Study</b>	<b>Lecturer</b> Dr. Stefanos Spaneas
<b>Mode of Delivery</b> Face-to-face	<b>Work Placement</b> N/A	<b>Co-requisites</b> None

## Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are:

- Understanding of epistemological assumptions that underpin qualitative methodologies
- definition of researchable problems using qualitative methods, selection of appropriate methods for research questions, and implementation of research techniques using qualitative methods
- Provision of opportunities to apply social research techniques by designing, applying and gathering quantitative data
- Appreciation of how qualitative tools for research are developed in response to particular research questions
- Understanding the process of different ways of analysing/interpreting qualitative data and information
- Writing a research project by applying qualitative methods
- prepare students to make use of such material in other courses, placements and in the final year dissertation

## Learning Outcomes:

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

1. recognise the epistemological assumptions that underpin qualitative research methods
2. recognise the roles of social researchers from the construction of the main idea till the interpretation of data gathering and analysis

3. define researchable problems using qualitative methods, select appropriate research questions and conduct relevant research by using one or more qualitative research strategies
4. critically evaluate information, arguments and assumptions, being aware of different viewpoints, the authority of source, the limitations of techniques and the limit of their knowledge
5. write clear reports in an appropriate format

**Course Contents:**

1. Introduction to Qualitative Research
2. Introduction to the rationale of interview usage and methods
3. Focus Group interviews
4. Ethnographic field research & observation
5. Case Studies
6. Non-obtrusive methods of gathering qualitative data: Archival research and historical method
7. Non-obtrusive methods of gathering qualitative data: Text analysis and Discourse analysis
8. Action research
9. Structuring qualitative data: Qualitative analysis techniques
10. Structuring qualitative data: Coding data and Use of matrices and networks
11. The best of both worlds': mixed methods
12. Basic principles of Designing a research project using qualitative research strategies

**Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

Lectures, Practical Exercises and Assignments.

**Assessment Methods:**

Homework, Quiz, Mid-Term, Project design (essay) and Final Exam.

**Required Textbooks/Reading:**

Authors	Title	Publishe	Year	ISBN
Alston, M. and Bowles, W.	Research for Social Workers: An Introduction to Methods	2 <sup>nd</sup> ed., Oxford: Routledge	2003	0415307236
Iosifidis, T.	Qualitative Research Methods in Social Sciences (greek)	Critiki pub.	2008	978-960-218-599-5
Iosifidis, T. and Spyridakis, M. (eds.)	Qualitatite social research: Methodological approaches and data analysis (greek)	Critiki pub.	2006	978-960-218-451-6

**Recommended Textbooks/Readinst:**

<b>Authors</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Publishe</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
Darlington, Y., Scott, D.	Qualitative Research in Practice: Stories from the Field	Open University Press	2002	978-0335211470
Mason, J., (transl. in greek by Kyriazi, N.)	Conducting Qualitative research,	Ellinika Grammata (greek)	2003	