London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership

Advanced Research Methods in Social Sciences

Online Course Code & Title	**LISS006 Introduction to Mixed Methods Research**		
Convenor	Ruth Plackett & Sarah Jasim		
Tutors	Ruth Plackett & Sarah Jasim		
Institution	King's College London	**Department**	LISS DTP
Academic Year	2023-24	**Term**	Spring 2024
Number of Sessions	4	**Length of Session(s)**	3 hours
Day, Date		**Start : End**	**Online Course Link**
Friday 19th January Monday 22nd January		1: 09.30-12.30 2: 14.00-17.00 3: 09.00-12.00 4: 13.00-16.00	MS Teams
Enrolment Link:	Available to book on SkillsForge from **Tuesday 12th December 2023**. Click to log in and register: https://training.kcl.ac.uk/kcl/#he/dev/eventDetails,;em,providerCode=LISS,providerOrgAlias=kcl,number=006,; **Maximum number of students: 30** Questions? Visit our Training FAQ here: Frequently Asked Questions - LISS DTP (liss-dtp.ac.uk)		

Online Course Description:

This online course introduces PhD students to key principles and procedures in mixed methods research methodology. It covers a range of methods, with a special focus on data collection and analysis, as well as hands-on methods practice to assist and further students' own research projects. The required pre-readings and pre-assignments for this online course will give students practical guidance on how to use mixed methods approaches from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.

As the class is **highly interactive and participatory, students will be expected to participate in the entire course and all the group exercises***, discuss their own research and methods with their peers, engage with the readings, and undertake short assignments before each session aimed at improving their methodological skills. Pre-assignments should be **completed before attending the sessions** as they will be used in breakout sessions, and students should come to class prepared to discuss their work. As the sessions are consecutive, we strongly encourage students to complete all the pre-assignments and read all required readings **before starting the course**, to enable them to feel adequately prepared for each session.

*Out of respect to all our students if you cannot participate for all four sessions and all the group activities – please e-mail the course convenor in advance to provide reasons. We will be operating a waiting room, so students who are unable to attend within 10 minutes of the start of each session will not be permitted to attend or re-enter the course. Courses will NOT be recorded. Please let course convenors know in advance if there are any accessibility requirements – convenors will try to do their best to accommodate.

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Eligibility: Due to high demand, this online course is largely restricted to students from small departments that do not offer their own in-house qualitative methods training, or students who are required to undertake this training as a condition of their ESRC funding. Please email liss-dtp@kcl.ac.uk **before signing up** if this online course has not been recommended to you by your department or supervisor. If unable to attend the entire **duration** of the session / course please e-mail liss-dtp@kcl.ac.uk before signing up, as there are limited places and high demand.

You must be a PhD student at either King's College London, Queen Mary University of London, or Imperial College London, using social science methodologies, and be based in a department that does not already offer this training.

Course Outline:

Session 1: What is mixed methods research? – Ruth Plackett

Pre-course Preparation: Think about your research question/s and the research methods you intend to use to answer these questions.

Arrive prepared to discuss your research questions and the methods you intend to use to answer these questions.

Session 1 will introduce students to the overall aims and requirements of the online course. This session will introduce students to key concepts in mixed methods research to gain a greater understanding of what it is (and is not) and why it is used.

Session 2: Conducting mixed methods research - ethics, planning your research & selecting your methods – Ruth Plackett

Pre-assignment: Please write a summary of your research question, why you think it lends itself to mixed methods (or not)? Why would mixed methods benefit your project e.g., would one method help to expand on findings from another?

Session 2 will take students through how to start planning their mixed methods project from developing the research question, theories used, selecting qualitative and quantitative methods and introduce concepts of ethics, consent, public engagement, and research safety. There may be some content overlap between 'Introduction to Qualitative Methods'. There will be opportunity for students to discuss their own research questions, methods, and desired outcomes.

Sessions 3: Models, sequence and priority – Sarah Jasim

Pre-Assignment: Please complete the table in the "Resources" Dropbox folder.

Sessions 3 introduces students to foundational models of mixed methods, with a focus on sequence and priority. Individual and group tasks will enhance students' abilities to distinguish between using qualitative-only, quantitative-only, and mixed-methods study designs.

Sessions 4: Write-up, diagrams and consolidating – Sarah Jasim

Pre-assignment: Please read all the course resources papers, and please bring a published example of a MM paper from your field.

Sessions 4 introduces students to practical approaches of using mixed methods in analysis, drawing upon real-life PhD and postdoctoral project examples. Individual and group tasks will enhance students' abilities to organise their analysis and structure their mixed methods writing (for a doctoral thesis or journal publication).

Eligibility:

You must be a PhD student at either King's College London, Queen Mary University of London, or Imperial College London, using social science methodologies, and be based in a department that does not already offer this training.

Pre course preparation:

Each session requires pre-assignments – please see the sessions above for specific guidance on the pre-assignment for each session. There is required reading of two textbook chapters for this course and some optional papers, to help you with your understanding and application of mixed methods which we strongly recommend you read:

Required readings: Creswell, J. W. (2014). Chapter 10, "Mixed Methods Procedures" in *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches.*

Creswell, J. W. & Plano Clark, V. L. (2011). Chapter 3, "Choosing a mixed methods design" in *Designing and conducting mixed methods research.*

Optional/helpful papers: Doyle, L., Brady, A.-M., & Byrne, G. (2016). An overview of mixed methods research – revisited. Journal of Research in Nursing, 21(8), 623–635. https://doi.org/10.1177/1744987116674257

Yvonne Feilzer, M. (2010). Doing Mixed Methods Research Pragmatically: Implications for the Rediscovery of Pragmatism as a Research Paradigm. Journal of Mixed Methods Research, 4(1), 6–16. https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689809349691