



# QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS AND RESEARCH WRITING

## PROF. ARADHNA MALIK

Department of Management Studies  
IIT Kharagpur

**PRE-REQUISITES :** Bachelors Degree

**INTENDED AUDIENCE :** Interested Students

**INDUSTRIES APPLICABLE TO :** Education.

### **COURSE OUTLINE :**

Qualitative research methods serve to explore the grey areas that remain outside the confines of quantitative predictive research in human behavior. Training in qualitative research is absolutely essential to understand and explore the dynamic nature of the society in which we function. This course introduces students to qualitative research and helps them understand how qualitative research supplements quantitative inquiry in human behavior and the social sciences.

### **ABOUT INSTRUCTOR :**

Prof. Aradhna Malik earned her Masters in Child Development from Panjab University, Chandigarh, India and PhD from University of Denver, USA. She has been serving Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur as faculty in the School of Management since 2008. Aradhna teaches intercultural communication, business ethics and organizational behavior to Undergraduate, Masters and Doctoral level students. Her research and academic interests include, ageing, orality, human technology interaction, intercultural communication, communication disorders, management of public health and neuro linguistic programming (NLP).

### **COURSE PLAN :**

**Week 1:** Introduction to qualitative research, Introduction, The Qualitative Researcher, Quantitative vs. qualitative research, History of qualitative research, The process of qualitative research

**Week 2:** Major paradigms & perspectives, Dominant paradigms of qualitative research, Interpretivist thinking, Verstehen, Constructivism, Properties of constructions, Constructivism: Sub paradigms, Criticisms of interpretivism & constructivism

**Week 3:** Major paradigms & perspectives (Contd.), Critical theory, Characteristics of critical theory, Critiques of critical theory

**Week 4:** Strategies of inquiry, Introduction to qualitative inquiry, Qualitative research design, Ethnography, Autoethnography, Case studies, Analyzing interpretive practice

**Week 5:** Strategies of inquiry (Contd.), Grounded Theory, Participatory Action Research

**Week 6:** Methods of collecting & analyzing empirical materials, Observations, Interviewing, Interpretation of documents & material culture, Images & visual methods Autoethnography, personal narrative & reflexivity

**Week 7:** Methods of collecting & analyzing empirical materials (Contd.), Analyzing talk & text, Data management & analysis methods, Software & qualitative research

**Week 8:** Interpretation, evaluation & presentation, The problem of criteria, Interpretation, Writing, Evaluation and social programs, Qualitative research and social policy Conclusion

**Week 9:** What, why and how of technical and research writing.

**Week 10:** Literature review.

**Week 11:** Writing about methods, results, and discussion of results.

**Week 12:** Referencing, academic integrity, and writing for different types of readers (Research proposals, Dissertations, Journal articles, Magazine articles) Final Examination Pattern: Multiple Choice Questions (Just like the weekly quizzes)