

**Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg**

Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics, and Business Administration

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Ariadna Ripoll Servent

Office hours: Wednesdays, 12:30–13:30



Bamberg Graduate School  
of Social Sciences

Winter Term 2016/2017

Block Seminar (PhD)/(MA):  
**Qualitative Methods of Social  
Inquiry**

This seminar-based course offers a broad introduction to the field of qualitative methods. It aims to situate the use of qualitative methods in different research traditions with the aim to uncover their advantages and limitations. The course is divided in four parts: the first part investigates the meaning of qualitative methods and its links with particular ways to investigate and understand the social world; the second part concentrates on various methods to gather qualitative data; the third looks at how primary and secondary qualitative data can be used and analysed. It discusses the importance of theory, causality and how they are linked to the way we interpret and present our data. The final part of the course deals with the assessment of qualitative data and methods – discussing the standards of validity, reliability and generalisability as well as broader questions of ethics in social science research.

**Dates:** Monday 12:00–14:00: 17.10.2016  
Mondays 12:00–16:00: 24.10.2016; 14.11.2016; 21.11.2016; 9.1.2017; 16.1.2017;  
6.2.2017  
**Room:** FG1/00.06  
**ECTS:** 8  
**Lecturer:** Prof. Dr. Ariadna Ripoll Servent  
**Office hours:** Wednesdays, 12:30–13:30

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- The working language of this course is English. All coursework must be completed in English.
- Regular attendance and knowledge of the required readings will be expected.
- To obtain a certificate, participants will have to submit a portfolio of two data reports in which they will be asked to develop a research question, use qualitative methods to gather and analyse data.
- Please note: The number of participants is limited. Student registration via FlexNow! is required.