

FURTHER EDUCATION | WORKSHOP

Mixed Methods Designs for Social Science Research

- Instructor:** Professor Dr Judith Schoonenboom, University of Vienna
- Date & Time:** Friday, October 29, 2021; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (s.t.); Breaks included
- Place:** Online via Zoom (login details will be announced to course participants in due time)
- Registration:** To register, please send an email to courses.bagss@uni-bamberg.de by October 24, 2021. Registration is mandatory. The number of participants is limited to 12.

Short Outline

In the workshop, participants learn how to build their own mixed methods designs for social science research. A mixed methods design is a design for a study that involves the integration of data from several sources. Examples include the integration of data obtained through different methods, or the integration of answers to separate, but related research questions. We will start by examining some real-life examples from the participants' research practice, and next discuss characteristics, opportunities, and pitfalls of mixed methods research. Participants will apply a strategy for the design of mixed methods research, developed by the workshop leader, to examples from their own research practice. This strategy involves

- mixed methods research as an emergent process, in which several cases of mixing and several cases of integration occur
- a method of visualizing cases of mixing
- a distinction between mixing methods, integrating data and integrating claims
- an overall view of mixed methods research as a process of case development

In this workshop, I emphasize the following four points:

- Mixing is not a characteristic of a study, but something that occurs within a study. Researchers therefore should not describe "the" design "of" their mixed methods study, but should rather describe cases of mixing and integration within their study.

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- Usually, mixing methods is an indirect process. The methods are not connected directly, but through connecting the claims that had been generated by application of the methods. A direct connection, or integration, can only be established among data or among claims.
- Mixing and integration can occur within mixed methods and multi-method research, but also within mono-method research. A mixed methods study often contains mono-method cases of mixing and integration.
- Mixed methods research can be described as a process of case development. Instead of viewing case study as one qualitative approach to research that can be combined with quantitative approaches, we see developing a case as an overall framework within which qualitative and quantitative research have their proper place.

The workshop is mainly aimed at doctoral members of BAGSS and LifBi. In case of any vacant places, it is open to anyone interested.

About the Trainer

Professor Dr Judith Schoonenboom is the Head of the Empirical Education Research at the Department of Education, University of Vienna. Her research interests focus on topics of innovation in higher education, design and evaluation of interventions, educational technology as well as mixed methods design and research.