

PA 707
Qualitative Data Analysis
Fall 2016
Silverman

This is a class in how to make sense of qualitative data - how to create it, code it and analyze it. In this class, we will discuss how qualitative analysis differs from quantitative analysis. We will talk about how to prepare data for analysis, how to iteratively create a coding scheme and then how to code the data. It will talk about going from the coded data to actual analysis, and how to use qualitative data in theory formation.

The class will show several qualitative online qualitative analysis packages, but will not require their use.

Requirements for the class include several class exercises, and a minimum (ie it can be longer) of a 10 page paper that analyzes qualitative data. For students doing a qualitative 706 project, this paper can be the analysis portion of their 706 paper.

The reading for the class is Richards, *Handling Qualitative Data*, Sage Publications, 2015. For students who wish a more advanced introduction to the material, other sources will be suggested.

Sept 17th What is qualitative analysis, how is it different from quantitative analysis. Theory behind qualitative analysis and preparing your data for coding.

Reading Part I Setting Up

October 1st Coding data, how to do it, and how to refine it

Reading Part II Working with your data

October 15st How to analyze your data - establishing relationships and developing models and theories

Reading Part III Making Sense of your data