

ATA 574

GUIDED RESEARCH

This is a course exclusively for ATA master students. The course aims to provide an introduction to basic issues of research and analysis to facilitate writing an M.A. thesis. The class will be carried out in a workshop format where each participant will present his/her M.A. thesis. Class presentations and the feedback provided on fellow participants' thesis will form a major component of the course.

Course Requirements

In-class presentation

10 page M.A. proposal

Short description of the M.A. thesis

Recommended Sources

Social Science Research Council. "On the Art of Writing Proposals".

<https://www.ssrc.org/publications/view/7A9CB4F4-815F-DE11-BD80-001CC477EC70/>

"Writing a Research Proposal: Advice to MERC applicants"

Jennifer Mason. 2002. *Qualitative Researching*. Sage Publications.

Wayne Booth, Gregory Colomb and Joseph Williams. 2008. *The Craft of Research*. University of Chicago Press.

Karen O'Reilly. 2005. *Ethnographic Methods*. Routledge.

Martin Hammersley and Paul Atkinson. 2007. *Ethnography: Principles in Practice*. Routledge.

H. Russell Bernard. 2000. "Unstructured and Semistructured Interviewing." In *Social Research Methods*. Sage Publications.

James Spradley. 1979. "Locating the Informant" and "Asking Descriptive Questions." In *The Ethnographic Interview*. Pp: 45-55; 78-92.

John Lofland and Lyn Lofland. 1984. "Data Logging in Intensive Interviewing." Pp: 53-62.

SCHEDULE

September 29

Introduction

October 13

Research Questions and Research Design

Social Science Research Council. "On the Art of Writing Proposals".

"Writing a Research Proposal: Advice to MERC applicants"

Jennifer Mason. "Planning and Designing Qualitative Research."

Karen O'Reily. "Where to Begin."

M. Hammersley and Paul Atkinson. "Research Design."

Wayne Booth, G. Colomb and J. Williams. "From Topics to Questions"

Come to class with a few sources (articles/books/theses) most relevant for your MA thesis. Be prepared to discuss these works in terms of their research questions and design and how you might use these sources for your developing the frame of your own thesis.

October 20

Student Presentations

Names TBA

November 3rd

No class

Submit draft of proposal and short description on November 3rd.

November 10

Student presentations

Names TBA

November 24

Student presentations

Names TBA

December 1

Student presentations

Names TBA

December 8

Student presentations

Names TBA

Final version of the MA thesis proposal due December 15 th.