Bemidji State University

SOC 3003: Qualitative Research Methods

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION
   Credits: 3
   Lecture Hours/Week: 0
   Lab Hours/Week: 0
   OJT Hours/Week: *
   Prerequisites: None
   Corequisites: None
   MnTC Goals: None
   This course examines the basic research methods used to study diverse social processes and improve upon our understanding of social issues through a qualitative research lens. We will understand the basic differences between quantitative and qualitative approaches and analyze the impact of these methods on data gathering and analysis. Prerequisite: SOC 1104 or instructor permission.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/02/2023 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS
   1. The social scientific research process including role of theory, philosophical assumption and relevant discussion on ethics, considerations when planning and preparing to conduct research
   2. Major issues in qualitative research design
   3. Major methods in qualitative research design
   4. Relative advantages and disadvantages of qualitative research design
   5. Philosophical assumptions in qualitative research design

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)
   1. explain the value of the scientific approach while conducting social scientific research.
   2. demonstrate the comprehension of the social scientific research process including the role of theory and the assumptions governing the nature of reality and how we know what we know.
   3. demonstrate the basic difference between quantitative and qualitative research methods.
   4. analyze the relative advantages between quantitative and qualitative research methods and demonstrate when qualitative research methods will be appropriate.
   5. apply ethical principles of research design to research problems and in the evaluation of other projects.
   6. demonstrate the understanding of the planning and preparation stage in conducting social scientific research.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies
   None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   None noted