

Research Methods in Psychoanalysis
PT 172
Fall 2020
Dr. Stephen Soldz
ssoldz@bgsp.edu

Course Description

This course provides a theoretical and practical knowledge of research methodology, including principles of concept formation and research design. The course will help students gain skills for reading and evaluating published research, as well as begin work on their dissertations. Students review important tools, methods and techniques for sound quantitative and qualitative research, including methods applicable psychoanalytic studies of a variety of topics. Throughout, there is an emphasis on research ethics and the requirements of ethical research practice.

Objectives

1. Students will acquire a preliminary understanding of social science research methodology.
2. Students will learn the differences between fixed and flexible research designs with special attention to establishing the trustworthiness of findings.
3. Students will learn to critically read and critique psychoanalytic research studies.
4. This course will describe techniques of qualitative research as applied to psychoanalytic topics.
5. Students will discuss the strengths and limitations of these methods.
6. Students will develop their dissertation research questions.
7. Students will begin their dissertation literature review.

Course Requirements

A one-page log on your personal reactions to class is due before each class. This can contain anything you wish to communicate to me.

A one- page reading reaction is due for each class. Please try and summarize the key idea in the readings in 1-3 sentences. Then write about your thoughts on the topic, potential applications, critiques, limitations, etc.

All readings EXCEPT ROBSON BOOK are available on the BGSP website. You should also become familiar with The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition, and/or abbreviated versions of it available on the internet.

A final paper is due at the last class which should be a draft of a section of your dissertation literature review. We will discuss this in class.

Readings

There is a Text for the course: Robson, C. (2016) **Real World Research**. I strongly suggest purchasing it as it is an excellent reference work to have around as you design your study. Note: I have previously used the 3rd edition. **Please get the 4th edition** as it has a new chapter that I'm using below.

1. 9/11 **What is science? What does it mean to be scientific?**
Robson, C. . Chapter 2: Approaches to Social Research.
2. 9/12 **Developing Research & Design Ideas**
Robson, Chapter 3: Developing Your Ideas & Chapter 4: General Design Issues.
3. 9/13 **Fixed Designs I**
Robson, Chapter 6: *Fixed Designs* pp. 101-122 (True experiments).
4. 9/25 **Fixed Designs II**
Robson, Chapter 6: *Fixed Designs* 126-133, 139-144.
5. 10/9 **Research Integration & Meta-analysis**
Oliver: *Research Integration for Psychologists*
Glass & Kliegel: *An apology for research integration in the study of psychotherapy*
6. 10/23 **Evidence-Based Practice Debate**
Spring: *Evidence-based practice in clinical psychology*
7. 11/6 **Data Collection Methods I**
Robson, Chapter 11: *Surveys and Questionnaires*
8. 11/7 **Data Collection Methods II**
Robson, Chapter 12: *Interviews and Focus Groups*
9. 11/8 **Qualitative Data Analysis**
Robson, Chapter 7: *Flexible Designs* (Review closely the section on *establishing trustworthiness in flexible designs*, pp. 168-177).
Midgley: *Psychoanalysis and qualitative psychology: complementary or contradictory paradigms?*
10. 11/20 **Conducting Literature Reviews**
Robson: Chapter 5: Desk-based research
11. 12/4 **Critiquing a Study**
Royse, D. (1991) *Reading and Critiquing Research Manuscripts* Research Methods in Social Work. Chicago: Nelson-Hall Publishers. pp. 267-268.

Critically Reading Journal Articles.
www.colby.edu/biology/bi319/GuideReadJour.doc

12. 12/18 **Ethical and Political Considerations**
Robson, Chapter 10: *Ethical and Political Considerations*
Soldz: *CIA Experiments in Torture* <https://www.counterpunch.org/2010/06/07/cia-experiments-in-torture/>
13. 1/8 **Process Research on Psychodynamic Psychotherapy**
Soldz: *The therapeutic interaction: Research perspectives*
14. 1/15 **Expressing Analytic Concepts in Ordinary Language**
Boston Institute for Psychotherapy Change Assessment Tool [BIP-CAT – Look over and read at least 7 items, including Object Relations items]
Shedler: *A new language for psychoanalysis*

References:

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- Ablon, J. S., & Jones, E. E. (2005). On analytic process. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 53(2), 541-568.
- Blatt, S. J. (2005). Commentary on Ablon and Jones. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 53(2), 569-578.
- Cartwright, D. (2004). The psychoanalytic research interview: Preliminary suggestions. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 52(1), 209-242.
- Glass, G. V., & Kliegl, R. M. (1983). An apology for research integration in the study of psychotherapy. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 51(1), 28–41. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0022-006X.51.1.28>
- Hauser, S. T. (2005). The Legacy of Enrico Jones. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 53(2), 535-540.
- Hollway, W., & Jefferson, T. (2000). *Doing qualitative research differently: Free association, narrative and the interview method*. London ; Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE.
- Jones, E. E., & Windholz, M. (1990). The psychoanalytic case study: Toward a method for systematic inquiry. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 38(4), 985-1015.
- Kächele, H., Schachter, J., Thomä, H., & Ulm Psychoanalytic Process Research Study Group. (2009). *From psychoanalytic narrative to empirical single case research: Implications for psychoanalytic practice*. New York: Analytic Press.
- Kvale, S (1996) *InterViews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research Interviewing*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Lieblich, A., Tuval-Mashiach, R., & Zilber, T. (1998). *Narrative research: Reading, analysis and interpretation*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Luborsky, L., & Crits-Christoph, P. (1998). *Understanding transference : the core conflictual relationship theme method* (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Marks, S., & Mönnich-Marks, H. (2003). The Analysis of Counter-Transference Reactions Is a Means to Discern Latent Interview-Contents. *Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung / Forum: Qualitative Social Research*, 4(2). <https://doi.org/10.17169/fqs-4.2.709>

- Oliver, L. W. (1987). Research Integration for Psychologists: An Overview of Approaches 1. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 17(10), 860-874.
- Patton, M. Q. (2002). *Qualitative research and evaluation methods* (3 ed.). Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage Publications.
- Soldz, S. (1990). The therapeutic interaction: Research perspectives. In R. A. Wells & V. J. Giannetti (Eds.), *Handbook of the brief psychotherapies* (pp. 27-53). New York: Plenum.
- Soldz, S. (2000). Building the researcher-practitioner alliance: A personal journey. In S. Soldz & L. McCullough (Eds.), *Reconciling empirical knowledge and clinical experience: The art and science of psychotherapy* (pp. 223-239). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association Books.
- Spring, B. (2007). Evidence-based practice in clinical psychology: What it is, why it matters; what you need to know. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 63(7), 611–631.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/jclp.20373>
- Thomas, D. R. (2003). A general inductive approach for qualitative data analysis. Retrieved August 20, 2008, from http://www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/soph/centres/hrmas/_docs/Inductive2003.pdf

Suggested Readings

- Bergin, A.E. & Garfield, S.L. (Eds.). (1994). Handbook of psychotherapy and behavior change. New York: Wiley.
- Greenberg, L. & Pinsof, W. (Eds.). (1986). The psychotherapeutic process: A Research handbook. New York: Guilford.
- Beck, A.P. Greene, L.R. & Lewis, C.M. (Eds.), Process in therapeutic groups: A handbook of systems of analysis. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Bornstein, R.F. & Masling, J.M. (Eds.). (1998). Empirical studies of the therapeutic hour. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Rice, L.N. & Greenberg, L.S. (Eds.). Patterns of change. New York: Guilford.
- Miller, N.E., Luborsky, L., Barber, J.P., Docherty, J.P. (Eds.). Psychodynamic treatment research: A handbook for clinical practice. New York: Basic.
- Luborsky, L. (1996). The Symptom-Context Method: Symptoms as Opportunities in Psychotherapy. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
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- Luyten, P., Fonagy, P., Target, M., Blatt, S., Mayes, L. (2015) *Handbook of Psychodynamic Psychopathology*, pp. 3-20, 529-541.
- Strupp, H.H. Success and failure in time-limited psychotherapy: A systematic comparison of two cases (Comparison 1). Archives of general psychiatry, 37, 595-603.

Strupp, H.H. Success and failure in time-limited psychotherapy: A systematic comparison of two cases (Comparison 2). Archives of general psychiatry, 37, 708-716.

Strupp, H.H. Success and failure in time-limited psychotherapy: A systematic comparison of two cases (Comparison 3). Archives of general psychiatry, 37, 831-841.

Strupp, H.H. Success and failure in time-limited psychotherapy: A systematic comparison of two cases (Comparison 4). Archives of general psychiatry, 37, 947-954.

Thacker, S. B. (1988). Meta-analysis: a quantitative approach to research integration. *Jama*, 259(11), 1685-1689.

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Regan, A.M. & Hill, C.E. (1992). Investigation of what clients and counselors do not say in brief therapy. Journal of Counseling Psychology, 39, 168-174.

[More upon request.]