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Mid Sweden University
Department of Social Sciences

Qualitative methods, FÖ022A

Exam 2018-05-03

- Write your code number on all sheets.
- English-English dictionary is allowed
- The examination comprises 15 questions (total 50 points).
- Question 1-10 are multiple choice questions. Tick which of the four alternatives for each question you think is the right answer. Only one mark per question. If the answer is right, you get 2 points. If the answer is wrong you get 0 point.

Good Luck!

Grades;

A= 45-50 points
B= 40-44 points
C= 35-39 points
D= 30-34 points
E= 25-29 points
F= 00-24 points
Multiple choices, Question 1-10 (2 points each)

1. What does the term sampling refer to?
   - a) using measures in order to better reach as high volumes as possible.
   - b) selecting the data sample.
   - c) uses quantitative methods to increase the number of participants in a study.
   - d) meaning of results is non-related to where is produced.

2. Constructionism argues that:
   - a) statistical sampling is the only way forward
   - b) qualitative results can be used only in objective contexts
   - c) the actual transfer of qualitative data has to be political
   - d) our view of the world is connected to the social world we live in

3. The concept of epistemology means:
   - a) methodological backgrounds indicating structured interviews
   - b) the same as hermeneutics
   - c) the theory of knowledge and how it is produced
   - d) the definition of new ways of looking on knowledge

4. Thick description means:
   - a) excluding descriptions of contexts of behavior in empirical accounts
   - b) a way to objectify the findings of a study so that it matches positivism.
   - c) using other researchers’ narratives instead of one’s own as research input.
   - d) none of the above

5. What does the term reliability mean in regards to qualitative methodology?
   - a) to establish a high level of generalizability
   - b) the use of standardized interview guides for true comparative explorations
   - c) it refers more to trustworthiness and dependability.
   - d) exactly the same as external validity.
6. Full coding involves
   - a) identifying specific issues from all of the respondents
   - b) identifying demarcated phenomenon from the whole population
   - c) identifying specific phenomena from the demarcated sample
   - d) identifying anything that is of interest to answer your research question

7. Theming is part of analysis and themes are
   - a) more specific than codes
   - b) are deeper than codes
   - c) are more abstract than codes
   - d) are less abstract than codes

8. Qualitative sensibility involves
   - a) an interest in cause and effect
   - b) an interest in process and meaning
   - c) staying in your scientific “cultural membership”
   - d) staying within your selected research questions

9. Grounded theory strives to see the reality with new fresh eyes which involves
   - a) observation of abstract processes
   - b) observation on the basis of your preconceptions
   - c) observation detached from your taken for given assumptions
   - d) observation disregarding theory

10. The “replication approach” in Yin’s case studies means to
    - a) get replication by other individual cases
    - b) get the same results regardless of when in time the study is conducted
    - c) use the case study to substantiate a preconceived position
    - d) get the same results regardless of who is making the study
Essay questions

11. Describe the meaning of secondary sources of data, exemplify what you mean, and describe ways to use secondary sources of data. (3p)

12. Interviews are often central in qualitative methodology. However, qualitative interviews can be divided into different types depending on how you choose to go through with them. Describe different forms or types of qualitative interviews and reason around the differences between them as well as the possible advantages / disadvantages with the different types or forms (8p)

13. Discuss the concept of saturation, include reasoning around the meaning of the concept as well as how to apply the concept it in a qualitative study. (4p)

   a. How are realities created according to Discourse analysis?
   b. Discourse analysis do no focus so much on person intentions, so what do this kind of study focus on?

15. Describe and explain the difference between “definitive concepts” and “sensitive concepts” in terms of qualitative and quantitative studies (7 p).