

# SNAKES AND LADDERS: FINDING YOUR WAY THROUGH THE QUALITATIVE LABYRINTH

06 JULY – 20 JULY 2019



SUMMER COURSE  
IN AMSTERDAM

50 CONTACT  
HOURS

MASTER LEVEL

When you think of healthcare research, randomized controlled trials, numbers, calculations, and p-values might spring to mind. But did you know there is a different way to do research? In qualitative health (education) research, the experiences, opinions, behaviours, and feelings of patients, healthcare professionals, medical educators, and students are the main topics of interest. Qualitative research focuses on why humans behave in certain ways and on how behavioural mechanisms work. As a qualitative researcher, your own experience and intuition play an important part in your work, which is reflected in the process of gathering and analysing data. However, when you embark on your qualitative research journey, you could be dazzled and overwhelmed by the many options available to you. In this summer school course, you will find out more about qualitative research and become acquainted with a few specific approaches.

There are three strands within the course:

- 'Show': focuses on visual research (e.g. rich pictures)
- 'Tell': focuses on interview research and the analysis of talk
- 'Observe': focuses on observational research

Students will be guided through the process of data gathering and will practise using this data to get to grips with qualitative analysis. In addition to assignments, the course includes:

- Share and compare sessions, in which students from different groups share and compare their experiences, progress, observations and questions;
- Spark sessions, in which guest lecturers inspire participants by presenting various qualitative methods they have used in research;
- Journal club sessions, in which we discuss papers together.

The course will be taught by experts in healthcare research and healthcare education with backgrounds in sociology, medicine, linguistics and education.

## WHO SHOULD JOIN

This course is aimed at students who are doing or are planning to do qualitative research as part of their Master's or PhD programme. We focus on research in the fields of healthcare and medical education. If you have doubts about your eligibility for the course, please let us know. Our courses are multi-disciplinary and therefore are open to students and professionals with a wide variety of backgrounds.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course you will be able to:

- Explain the nature of qualitative research and recognize qualitative research designs;
- Formulate a research question and adapt it during a research project and prepare, conduct and transcribe/take notes for:
  - a) an interview study
  - b) an observation study
  - c) or a visual (rich pictures) study;
- Apply techniques to enhance the reliability of data gathering and analysis and name and apply different methods for coding data (using software for qualitative data analysis)
- Explain the relationship between data, analysis, and theory in order to write a qualitative research paper.
- Last but not least, participants will have the opportunity to build a network of peers for support and cooperation beyond the course. Present research findings.

## EXCURSIONS

For each of the groups, a suitable and inspiring excursion will be organized, all aimed at helping students develop the skills necessary to gather and/or analyse rich data. For example, the visual research group will visit an art gallery to discuss the analysis of visual cues.

## COURSE INFO

Course level	Master
Session	1
Co-ordinating lecturer	Dr Anne de la Croix
Other lecturers	Stéphanie van der Burgt, Dr Esther Helmich, Dr Terese Stenfors, Dr Aileen Barrett and others!
Form(s) of tuition	Group work, excursions, discussions, videos, journal club
Form(s) of assessment	Attendance, presentation, practical assignments
ECTS	3 credits
Contact hours	50
Tuition fee	€1150

## WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT

Various housing options for all students  
Airport pick up service  
Support before, during and after the programme  
Emergency assistance  
Orientation and social programme

## VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM

The Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) is an internationally renowned research university. Since its founding in 1880 interdisciplinary research has been leading in its education. The university consists of nine faculties with teaching facilities for 22.000 students. With over 120 English-taught Bachelor's and Master's programmes, the university offers a wide range of study options. The campus is a centrally located hub where people feel at home and engage in innovative ways.

## AMSTERDAM FACTS

- Capital of the Netherlands
- Europe's safest city on The Economist Safe City Index
- 187 nationalities - more than any other city in the world!
- 93% of the Dutch speak English
- 881.000 bicycles and 40 parks to bike through
- A total of 165 canals: Venice eat your heart out

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Enrollment opens from mid-December 2018 until 1 May 2019. Requirements differ per course. For more information on how to apply, please visit our website.

## DISCOUNTS AND SCHOLARSHIP

Early bird discount of €150 for anyone who applies before 15 March 2019. €250 discount for students from partner universities. For more info please check our website.

## CONTACT



[www.amsterdamsummerschool.nl](http://www.amsterdamsummerschool.nl)



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