

EQUALFIN Workshop: Introduction to Mixed Methods

12 & 13 February 2026

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Location: Room 243, Rüdesheimer Str. 54-56, 14197 Berlin

I. Description:

This workshop introduces participants to the basics of mixed-methods research and its use for causal research. We will discuss the general rationale of combining qualitative and quantitative methods. The course aims to reflect parts of the broad diversity of mixed-methods studies in the discipline to accommodate participants' projects (to the extent it is possible in this format).

The goal of the course is to develop an idea about the varieties in which mixed-methods studies can be done. We discuss the unique advantages as well as the methodological and practical challenges one may confront in mixed-method research.

Topics include the variety of mixed-method designs that are available; the use of concepts in the qualitative and quantitative analysis, cases and case selection; and the compatibility of theoretical expectations in the qualitative and quantitative analysis. The discussions are illustrated with examples from different fields. By the end of the course, participants will have a starting point for developing their own mixed-methods study and will be able to critically evaluate published multi-method research studies.

II. Participation requirements:

- All: read the mandatory texts indicated in the program
- Doctoral students wishing to participate in the complete workshop are required to submit an outline of their dissertation with a particular emphasis on methodology. The submitted outlines will serve as the basis for discussion on the second day of the workshop (max. 15 pages, until February 5; send to Carmen Marull (carmen.marull@fu-berlin.de)).
- The outline may focus on the methods of the current paper you are writing, or on the methods of your entire PhD project
- It is possible to participate only during the first day for the lectures on mixed methods

III. Books for further reading on MMR (alphabetical order):

1. Creswell, John W. and Vicki L. Plano Clark (2017): *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*. (3rd edition) Los Angeles: SAGE Publications.
 - Creswell and Clark give a broad overview over MMR as it is done in fields such as education and social work.
2. Goertz, Gary (2017): *Multimethod Research, Causal Mechanisms, and Case Studies: An Integrated Approach*. Princeton University Press.
 - Goertz approaches the idea of mixed methods from a more qualitative and set-theoretic perspective.
3. Seawright, Jason (2016): *Multi-Method Social Science: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Tools*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 - A more advanced book on combining statistical techniques with qualitative research.

Readings can be downloaded from this folder:

<https://e.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZgE1OZlRQOVjnIF3Q5RikHueO7IXgkgBgV>

IV. Detailed Workshop Schedule

First Day: February 12 (Thursday), 10.00 – 18.00

Topic: General introduction to mixed-methods research (10.00 – 11.30)

Mandatory References:

- Schoonenboom, Judith and R. Burke Johnson (2017): How to Construct a Mixed Methods Research Design. *KZfSS Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie* 69 (2): 107-131.
- Lieberman, Evan S. (2005): Nested analysis as a mixed-method strategy for comparative research. *American Political Science Review* 99 (3): 435-452.

Example in class:

- We use three examples listed on the slides.

Voluntary Readings:

- Wolf, Frieder (2010): Enlightened eclecticism or hazardous hodgepodge? Mixed methods and triangulation strategies in comparative public policy research. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research* 4 (2): 144-167.
- Creswell, John W. and Vicki L. Plano Clark (2011): *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*. Los Angeles: SAGE: chapter 3.

- Small, Mario Luis (2011): How to Conduct a Mixed Methods Study: Recent Trends in a Rapidly Growing Literature. *Annual Review of Sociology* 37 (1): 57–86.
- Ichniowski, Casey, and Kathryn Shaw. 2013. “Insider Econometrics: A Roadmap for Estimating Empirical Models of Organizational Design and Performance.” In *Handbook of Organizational Economics*, edited by Robert Gibbons and John Roberts. 2013: 263-311.

Break (11.30-11.45)

Topic: Theoretical and conceptual consistency in causal research (11.45-13.15)

Mandatory References:

- Ahram, Ariel I. (2013): Concepts and Measurement in Multimethod Research. *Political Research Quarterly* 66 (2): 280-291.
- We work with the examples as they are introduced in the article. (excerpts from Lieberman 2003; Schultz 2001)

Example in class:

- Lange, Matthew (2009): *Lineages of Despotism and Development: British Colonialism and State Power*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press: chap. 1.

Voluntary Readings:

- Johnson, R. Burke, Federica Russo, and Judith Schoonenboom (2019): Causation in Mixed Methods Research: The Meeting of Philosophy, Science, and Practice. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research* 13 (2): 143–162.
- Rohlfing, Ingo, and Christina Isabel Zuber (2021): Check Your Truth Conditions! Clarifying the Relationship between Theories of Causation and Social Science Methods for Causal Inference. *Sociological Methods & Research* 50 (4): 1623-1659.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0049124119826156>

Lunch break (13.15-14.30)

Topic: Case selection (14.30-16.00)

Mandatory References:

- Lieberman, Evan S. (2005): Nested analysis as a mixed-method strategy for comparative research. *American Political Science Review* 99 (3): 435-452. (specifically on case selection)
- Koivu, Kendra L., and Annika Marlen Hinze (2017): Cases of Convenience? The Divergence of Theory from Practice in Case Selection in Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Research. *PS: Political Science & Politics* 50(4): 1023–27.

Example in class

- Lange, Matthew (2009): *Lineages of Despotism and Development: British Colonialism and State Power*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press: chapter 3.

Voluntary Readings:

- Gerring, John and Lee Cojocaru (2016): Selecting Cases for Intensive Analysis: A Diversity of Goals and Methods. *Sociological Methods & Research* 45 (3): 392-423.
- Goerres, Achim and Katrin Prinzen (2012): Using Mixed Methods for the Analysis of Individuals: A Review of Necessary and Sufficient Conditions and an Application to Welfare State Attitudes. *Quality & Quantity* 46 (2): 415–50.

Break (16.00-16.15)

Topic: Linking evidence to theory & Challenges & summary (16.15-18.00)

Mandatory References:

- There is no special reading on this topic. It is based on the discussion of mixed-methods research and conceptual and theoretical consistency in the morning.

Empirical illustration:

- Howard, Marc M., and Philip G. Roessler (2006) Liberalizing Electoral Outcomes in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes. *American Journal of Political Science* 50 (2): 365-381.

Challenges & summary:

- Ahmed, Amel and Rudra Sil (2012): When Multi-Method Research Subverts Methodological Pluralism—or, Why We Still Need Single-Method Research. *Perspectives on Politics* 10 (4): 935-953.

Voluntary Readings:

- Behrens, Lion, and Ingo Rohlfing. 2025. The Integration of Bayesian Regression Analysis and Bayesian Process Tracing in Mixed-Methods Research. *Sociological Methods & Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00491241241295336>.

Second Day: February 13 (Friday), 10.00 – 15.00

Topic: Discussion of research proposals and papers by the workshop participants

Mandatory Readings:

- Participants submitted outlines. Each outline should be max. 15 pages long and should be submitted by February 5 (please upload your outline [here](#))

- The outline may focus on the method of the current paper you are writing, or on the method(s) of your entire PhD project.

Format:

- Participant presentation: max. 10 minutes
- Discussion: 5 minutes comment by a peer, 30 minutes feedback by Ingo Rohlfing, and open discussion with the group.