

PhD Course: Research methods from a gender perspective

Organisers: dr. Inge Bleijenbergh, prof.dr. Willy Jansen

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Subject: Classical and modern debate on the use of qualitative and quantitative research methods from a gender perspective.

Objective: Students will be able to recognize gender bias in the application of qualitative and quantitative research methods. They will be able to critically reflect upon the choice and application of research methods from a gender perspective in their own PhD research.

Design: The course takes two full days, with an alternation of lectures, discussion of literature and discussion of assignments made by students. The first day will focus on qualitative research methods, the second day on quantitative research methods. Both days will take the different phases in the research process into consideration, namely design, research question, operationalization, choice of methods for accessing sources, data collection, data-analysis and interpretation and reporting. In order to receive a certificate participants must have actively participated in both days, read the assigned literature, written two short assignments on their own method selection, and actively participated in the discussions.

Institutional context: Interdisciplinary, interfaculty project under the heading of the Institute for Gender Studies and the Faculty of Management Sciences, Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands Research School on Gender (NOG) and the Hochschule Rhein-Waal, Kleve. The proposed course is part of new curriculum development and will be evaluated accordingly afterwards.

Participants: Estimated number of students: 15. The maximum is set at 20 PhD researchers in order to enable in depth discussion. The course is also open to advanced MA students and other young researchers for the remaining places.

Costs: The course is sponsored by the European 7th framework programme supported STAGES project so there are no fees for this course. Travel and lunch costs are for the students own account.

Reading: You are advised to buy the books of Nagy Hesse-Biber and Reinharz or borrow them from your own university library. Copies of the books and the articles will be available for consultation only at the Documentation Centre of the Institute for Gender Studies, Thomas van Aquinostraat. Nijmegen.

Study load: 2 x 7 hours workshop days, 2 x 4 hours working on the assignments and an estimated 2 x 32 hours of reading (= 84 hours, 3 ECT).

Time: **Friday May 22 and June 5, 2015.**

Place: **Beelkamer, Huize Heyendaal, Nijmegen. Radboud University Nijmegen** (for information on how to get there see <http://www.ru.nl/contact/bereikbaarheid/>)

Registration: Please send the fully completed Registration Form to genderstudies@maw.ru.nl before **May 13, 2015.**

Deadlines assignments:

Send assignment I **before May 13, 2015** to i.bleijenbergh@fm.ru.nl and w.jansen@maw.ru.nl

Send assignment I **before May 28, 2015** to i.bleijenbergh@fm.ru.nl and w.jansen@maw.ru.nl

Day 1, Friday May 22, 2015: Qualitative research

Topics: Explorative research questions. Defining concepts. Gender bias in collecting data via interviews and participant observation. Gender bias in data analysis of qualitative material and reporting. Ethics in research methods.

10.00-10.30 Lecture 1, General introduction: Are there any feminist research methods? Implicit gender bias (prof. dr. Willy Jansen)

10.30-11:00 Discussion of the lecture and assigned literature

11.00-11.15 Break

11.15-12.30 Discussion of students assignments

Lunch break

13.45 – 14.15 Lecture 2, Expert interviews from a gender perspective (prof. dr. Eva Maria Hinterhuber)

14.15-14.45 Discussion of the lecture and the literature

14.45 -15.30 Discussion of students' assignments.

15.30-15.45 Tea break

15.45 – 16.15 Lecture 3, Analyzing gendered images and artefacts (dr. Els Rommes)

16.15-17.00 Discussion of the lecture and the literature, closing of the meeting

Prepare

Read and prepare one discussion point for each article or chapter:

Bleijenbergh, I. & Fielden, S. (forthcoming) Examining Diversity in Organizations from Critical Perspectives: the Validity of the Research Process. *Oxford Handbook on Diversity in Organizations*. London: Oxford University Press (21 p.).

Buch, E. & K. Staller (2007) The feminist practice of ethnography. In S. Nagy Hesse-Biber & P. Lina Leavy (eds) *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage, p. 187-221.

Harding, S. (1997) Is there a feminist method? In: Kemp, S. and Squires, J. (eds) *Feminisms*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 160-170.

Nagy Hesse-Biber, S. (2007) The practice of feminist in-depth interviewing. In S. Nagy Hesse-Biber & P. Lina Leavy (eds) *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage, p. 111-148.

Scott, Joan W. (1986) Gender: A useful category of historical analysis. *The American Historical Review*, 91 (5) 1053-1075.

Assignment 1: Give your name, title of your research and summary of 10 lines of your research topic. Describe the qualitative aspects of your research, and how you apply the chosen qualitative methods in a gender critical manner. Discuss any problems you have encountered or methodological questions you have (Max. two pages, lettersize 12, send before **May 13, 2015** to w.jansen@maw.ru.nl and i.bleijenbergh@fm.ru.nl)

Day two: Friday June 5, 2015: Quantitative research methods

Topics: Gender bias in selection of sample, quantitative data-analysis and interpretation and reporting. Hypothesis testing research questions. Defining concepts. Collecting quantitative data and gender bias.

10.00-10.30 Lecture 1, Quantitative techniques in feminist research (dr. Niels Spierings)

10.30-11.00 Discussion of the lectures and the literature

11.00-11.15 Break

11.15-12.30 Discussion of students assignments

Lunch break

13.45 – 14.15 Lecture 2, "Careers across borders: the triangulation of quantitative and qualitative methods in life-course analysis" (prof. dr. Ingrid Jungwirth)

14.15-14.45 Discussion of the lecture and the literature

14.45-15.30 Discussion of students' assignments.

15.30 – 15.45 Break

15.45 – 16.15 Lecture 3, Qualitative and quantitative modeling in gender research (dr. Inge Bleijenbergh)

16.15-17.00 Discussion of the lecture and the literature, closing of the meeting

Prepare

Read and prepare one discussion point for each article or chapter:

Leckenby, D. (2007) Feminist empiricism: Challenging gender bias and "Setting the Record Straight" In S. Nagy Hesse-Biber & P. Lina Leavy (Ed.) *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage, p 27-51.

Jordan-Young, R. (2010) Making sense of brain organization studies in: *Brain Storm: The Flaws in the Science on Sex Differences*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, p. 41-64.

Spierings, Niels (2012) The inclusion of quantitative techniques and diversity in the mainstream of feminist research. *European Journal of women's Studies* 19(3) 331-347.

Minor-Rubino, K. & Epstein Jayarantne (2007) Feminist survey research. In S. Nagy Hesse-Biber & P. Lina Leavy (eds) *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage, p. 293-325.

Reinharz, S. (1992) *Feminist Methods in Social Research*. New York/Oxford: Oxford University Press (pages to be indicated, for example 3-17; 197-213).

Assignment 2: Give your name and title of your research. Describe the quantitative aspects of your research, and how you apply the chosen quantitative methods in a gender critical manner. Discuss any problems you have encountered or question you have. (Max. two pages, lettersize 12, send before **May 28, 2015** to w.jansen@maw.ru.nl and i.bleijenbergh@fm.ru.nl)

Registration form

PhD Course: Research methods from a gender perspective 2015

Name:

Title of your research:

Institute and University, name of supervisor:

Year in research process:

Assignment I

Give your name, title of your research and summary of 10 lines of your research topic. Describe the qualitative aspects of your research and how you apply the chosen qualitative methods in a gender critical manner. Also indicate the problems you have encountered in your research or any methodological questions you may have (Max. two pages, lettersize 12, send before **May 13, 2015** to w.jansen@maw.ru.nl and i.bleijenbergh@fm.ru.nl)

Assignment II

Give your name and title of your research. Describe the quantitative aspects of your research, and how you apply the chosen quantitative methods in a gender critical manner. Also indicate the problems you have encountered in your research or any methodological questions you may have. (Max. two pages, lettersize 12, send before **May 28, 2015** to w.jansen@maw.ru.nl and i.bleijenbergh@fm.ru.nl)