

Need/Questions to answer

What are the basic working theories in the field?

How are programs/projects in a field planning on achieving their goals/desired outcomes?

Theories

Theory	Primary reference
Grounded Theory	Crabtree and Miller Doing Qualitative Research Strauss and Corbin Denzin and Lincoln's Strategies of Qualitative Inquiry
Critical Multiplism/nested cases	Yin Case Study Research: Design and Methods Letouneau and Allen Post-positivistic critical multiplism: A Beginning Dialogue. Journal of Advanced Nursing 1999;30(3):623-630
Hermenteutics	Addison Crabtree and Miller's Doing Qualitative Research
External validation and Translational research	Greene and Glascow Evaluating the Relevance, Generalization, and Applicability of Research: Issues in External Validation and Translation Methodology
Rational Program Planning	McKenzie and Smeltzer Steuart The Importance of Programme Planning
Logic Models	Leeuw Reconstructing Program Theories: Methods Available and Problems to be Solved

Resources/Sources of data

Program/project evaluations

Program/project plans

Grant applications

Program/project websites

Program/project overviews

Individuals involved in project evaluation or development

Key Informants from field

Program/project participants

Funder calls' for proposals

Project/Program documents about organizational sponsor/ (mostly related to goals, identity, purpose, activities)

Major steps

1. Specify question
 - Which field, what type programs/projects included, specific population(s) if relevant, geographic/culture/context range, if applicable
 - Define case nesting structure, and cases
2. Locate written sources
 - Include libraries, but go far beyond, include google searches, grey literature, organizational archives/libraries, program bookshelves, websites
 - Keep records of search – locations, terms, dates, copies(storage location)
3. Build data collection
 - Find easiest in purpose built database (keep records of build choices, including field definitions, linkages, query builds, changes made as use, etc)
 - If doing by hand, establish a system to track what read, coded, where stored, how to access, consolidation tables, etc
4. First level coding (Open Coding)
 - Done during reading and entering data/quotes in database/system
 - Build code table during entry (keeping all code definitions up to date and fully listed during coding/data entry)
 1. Track all code changes/updates
 2. Clean code list
 - Develop code book for Open Codes (report/query within database or hardcopy)
5. Code grouping (Axial coding)
 - Start grouping into categories using the logic model framework
 - remember will probably have multiple logic models and they may interact
 - Hard copy of all individual codes or a good drawing program with all the codes available helps
6. Final logic model groups (Selective coding)
 - Consider if the logic models themselves from previous step actually group also and formalize the paths between logic models

Outcomes

- A set of logic models that can summarize the field's efforts and logic
- An over all framework showing interaction between the logic models
- A set of program types associated with each logic model
- A set of activities associated with each logic model
- A start for field evaluation and formal theory development