

## Übung / Tutorial

# Empirical Social Science Methods

**Dozent\*innen**

M.Sc. Marie Aschenbrenner

**Zielgruppe**
 B.Sc.  M.Sc.  LA
**Leistungsnachweis**

Modulnote (Klausur)

**Organisatorisches**

Zeit: Tuesday, 12-2pm

Ort: Richard-Wagner-Str. 10,

Raum D 118

ECTS: 2

**Zielsetzung / Course aim:** This course is the tutorial corresponding to the lecture on Empirical Social Science Methods. The aim of the module is to introduce a range of qualitative methods and to enable students to assess progress towards sustainable development.

Besides discourse analysis of environmental texts such as policy documents and journalistic coverage, landscape representations in photographs, paintings, travel writing and film, as well as cartographic and statistical representations are addressed. Interview practices, ethnographic field work and issues of positionality raised in feminist and post-colonial studies are further components. The module then considers a range of assessment methods in terms of their effectiveness, including new environmental indicators, monitoring practices, assessment procedures, as well as 'gap to target' frameworks, state of the environment reporting, and qualitative network analysis.

The tutorial deepens the content of the corresponding lecture through practical exercises and the discussion of key texts. It also introduces practical aspects of qualitative data analysis by introducing the qualitative data analysis software MAXQDA.

**Course outline**

Date	Session	Topic
22 Oct	1	Critiques of Positivist Knowledge Construction (1)
29 Oct	2	Critiques of Positivist Knowledge Construction (2)
5 Nov	3	Analyzing Environmental Images – Visualizations and Cartography
12 Nov	4	Environmental Texts – Framing and Discourse Analysis
19 Nov	5	Excursus: How to write a book review and preparation of Q&A
26 Nov	6	Environmental Texts – Media Coverage
3 Dec	7	Qualitative Methods – Interviews, Questions, Observations (1)
10 Dec	8	Qualitative Methods – Interviews, Questions, Observations (2)
17 Dec	9	Analyzing Qualitative Data: Coding
7 Jan	10	Analyzing Qualitative Data: MAXQDA
14 Jan	11	Assessments
21 Jan	12	Assessments
28 Jan	13	Review
4 Feb	Examination	

**Literature (selection)**

- Barnett, J, Simon L, and Fry, I (2008) The hazards of indicators. Insights from the Environmental Vulnerability Index, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 98 (1), 102–19.
- Harley, J. B (2011) Deconstructing the map. In *Classics in Cartography. Reflections on Influential Articles from Cartographica* ed. M. Dodge, John Wiley & Sons, 273–94.
- Shmueli, D. F (2008) Framing in geographical analysis of environmental conflicts. Theory, methodology and three case studies, *Geoforum*, 39 (6), 2048–61.
- Willems–Braun, B (1997) Buried epistemologies. The politics of nature in (post)colonial British Columbia, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 87 (1), 3–31.