

# SYDNEY QUALITATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH PROGRAMS



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH



THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

The Sydney Qualitative Health Research Program provides a unique educational experience. The first course of this kind in Australia, it addresses the urgent need for formal training in the rapidly growing field of qualitative research.

Would you like to spend your days sorting out how health fits into people's everyday lives?

Or untangling the way things work in health and medical organisations?

Do you want to understand people's stories about their illness?

Or learn about health-related practices in different cultures?

If so, qualitative research is for you.

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Qualitative researchers examine our complicated and ever-changing world. They ask what happens in people's everyday lives, how people define and talk about problems, and what things mean. They try to understand, to see people's points of view. A quantitative researcher might ask "how many people have diabetes?" or "did this intervention decrease smoking rates?" Qualitative researchers would ask questions such as "what does it mean to someone to be told they are 'at risk' of diabetes?" or "how do policymakers prioritise some problems over others?"

Qualitative researchers analyse data from long interviews, focus groups,

observation, published documents, mass media, video & visual images.

Qualitative studies are systematic but flexible, always ready for surprise or to redefine problems. This means that qualitative research can produce highly original findings.

The University of Sydney's new qualitative health research programs provide unrivalled hands-on-training in qualitative research practice.

## OUR ADVANTAGE

Our courses offer the first structured postgraduate program of training in qualitative health research in Australia.

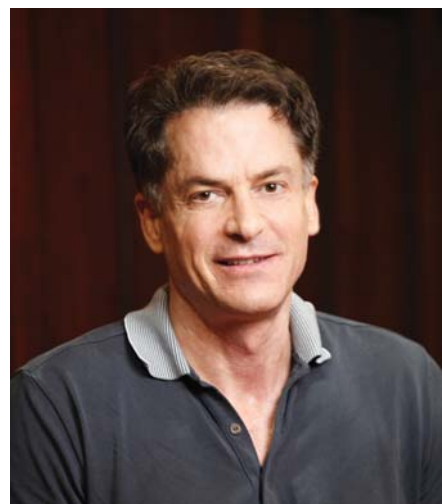
We provide hands-on training in qualitative research practice, sophisticated engagement with theory and methodology, and solid preparation in current health issues.

Students can enrich their learning by taking elective units of study in public health and bioethics. Students enrolled in the master's program have additional elective choices from the humanities and social sciences.

“The skills you develop in this class will save you considerable time, effort and frustration by enabling you to avoid costly mistakes when you’re designing and conducting your research. My advice is to take it as soon as possible in your research ‘career’. It’s a valuable investment in the development of efficient and effective research techniques.”

Aric Bendorf  
Introducing Qualitative Health Research student 2009

Photo: Jamie Williams



## OUR STUDENTS

Because qualitative research is increasingly important to many health-related fields, we attract health professionals from diverse areas including medicine, public health, nursing, allied health, dentistry, bioethics and health policy.

## CAREER PROSPECTS

Our programs will help you develop qualitative research expertise, with particular attention to application in health contexts.

If you are an isolated and/or self taught qualitative researcher working in health, our programs offer a unique opportunity to consolidate skills, form networks and formalise learning in a supportive and enthusiastic environment. These programs provide the best possible preparation for enrolment in a PhD or MPhil using qualitative methods.

The program is designed for people who want to become specialists in qualitative research in health.

## COURSE OPTIONS

### MASTER OF QUALITATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH

#### COURSE STRUCTURE

Core units: 24 credit points  
Electives: 24 credit points  
Total: 48 credit points

### GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN QUALITATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH

#### COURSE STRUCTURE

Core units: 24 credit points  
Electives: 12 credit points  
Total: 36 credit points

### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN QUALITATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH

#### COURSE STRUCTURE

Core units: 24 credit points  
Total: 24 credit points

## MODE OF DELIVERY

Core units of study in the Sydney Qualitative Health Research Program are offered on campus in an intensive ‘workshop’ format. Meeting in blocks of 2 or 3 days, with online learning activities in some units of study, makes our programs accessible to students living outside of the Sydney area.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

You must have a bachelor’s degree to be eligible for our courses. Candidates who do not hold a bachelor’s degree may be admitted to the Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Health Research if the Sydney Medical School considers they have equivalent professional experience. This is usually a minimum of three years recent, full-time employment in a relevant sector. Such applicants must provide a CV in support of their application.



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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