

MHST/NURS 603 - Assignment #1
Qualitative Research Assignment
Value – 25% of the final grade for the course

Due: on or before the end of Week 6

The purpose of Assignment 1 is to assist you in understanding when and why it is appropriate to use qualitative approaches in research, as well as to help you become familiar with some of the different types of qualitative research, and how they are utilized in research.

Based on the class readings, class discussions, material from the resource forum and any other information you have obtained through additional readings, your objective is to write a scholarly paper addressing the following three tasks:

- provide an overview of the nature of qualitative research
- provide an argument outlining when it is appropriate to use qualitative research methods, or alternatively, you might disagree entirely with the use of qualitative methods.
- select two qualitative methods and provide a compare and contrast of the two methods. Qualitative methods include (but are not limited to) grounded theory, phenomenology, discourse analysis, ethnography, and case study. Use peer-reviewed, published qualitative research examples to provide illustration and context to your arguments.

Your paper should demonstrate a scholarly discussion:

- it is imperative that you follow that APA sample manuscript that is provided in the APA manual.
- it is strongly recommended that you integrate a breadth of materials, including course readings and additional readings from AU library databases (i.e., peer-reviewed publications) to support your arguments and related discussion.
- do not use unreliable resources such as Wikipedia or personal/faculty webpages.
- ensure all citations and references are in accordance with APA specifications.

Assignment 1 is to be a **maximum of 7 pages** (minimum 12 point font, 1 inch margins), excluding the title page, abstract, and references. Submit the assignment to your course instructor via the course Dropbox.

Criteria	Max. mark	Your mark
type = list		
Depth of Reflection	120	
Provided an overview of the nature of qualitative research (Mark = 1 to 20)		20
Provided an argument outlining when it is appropriate to use qualitative research methods or when it is not (Mark = 1 to 25)		25
Discussed the strengths and limitations of qualitative research methodology (Mark = 1 to 25)		25
Selected two qualitative methods and provided a comparison and contrast of the two methods (Mark = 1 to 25)		25
Used peer-reviewed, published qualitative research examples to provide illustration and context to your argument (Mark = 1 to 25)		25
Organization of Paper	24	
Used appropriate literature to inform assignment and supplement analysis (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Provided clear and focused discussion of topic with synthesis of ideas from the literature and course content (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Informative and succinct (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Defined all appropriate terms (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Organized paper in a clear and systematic manner (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Demonstrated a thorough understanding of the topic (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Presentation Style	20	
Assignment was written in a scholarly format with title page, appropriate sentences, paragraphs, and headings (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Included an effective introduction and conclusion (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Adhered to the <i>APA Manual 6th Ed.</i> scholarly writing guidelines for headings, formatting, citations, and references (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Work was free of grammatical and typographical errors (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Length of paper did not exceed 7 pages, this does not include title page, reference page, or appendices (Mark = 1 to 4)		4
Late submission (Mark = -10 to -5)		
Penalties or bonuses (Mark = -10 to +10)		
Totals	164	164
Percentages	100%	100%
Mark for this assignment	25	25
Grade for this assignment		