

**POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN ETHNOLOGY AT THE VILNIUS
UNIVERSITY, THE INSTITUTE OF LITHUANIAN LITERATURE AND
FOLKLORE, AND THE LITHUANIAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND
THEATER: THE COURSE ITINERARY**

Subject	Research area (branch), code	Institution	Department
QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS	Ethnology H006	Vilnius University	Institute of Asian and Transcultural Studies
Form of study	Duration	Form of study	Duration
lecture:	10	consultation:	10
independent study:	170	seminar:	10
Credit hours	8		
Course description			
<p>Main objective</p> <p>Students will be introduced to the variety and main principles of qualitative research methods. The course introduces some fieldwork methods (interviews, observations, etc.) and data analysis approaches, qualitative methods of text analysis, challenges and principles of digital fieldwork. The aim is to help the student to choose the most appropriate methodological approaches and methods for their specific research project. Students will be required to develop a research strategy for their doctoral project, select appropriate methods, develop research tools and conduct some pilot research and analysis.</p>			
<p>Goals and competences gained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select the most appropriate methodology and methods for the specific doctoral project; prepare a research strategy and tools; • Learn how to apply the chosen research methods and carry out data analysis, • Analyse data (also using software) • Triangulate data collected by different methods. 			
<p>Content:</p> <p>1. Qualitative and quantitative research methodology and methods: the main features. Formulating the research problem.</p> <p>Key words: qualitative and quantitative methodologies, social and humanitarian sciences, anthropology.</p> <p>Concepts: methodology, methods, research problem, research object, aims, strategy, validity.</p> <p>Literature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernard H. Rusell (2006) Research Methods in Anthropology. Qualitative and quantitative approaches. 4th edition. Altamira Press. • Bryman Alan, Burgess G. Robert (eds.) (1994) Analyzing Qualitative Data. London and New York: Routledge. • Brygman, Alan (2008) Social Research Methods. 4th Edition. Oxford University Press. <p>Key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the difference between qualitative and quantitative research? - When does a researcher use qualitative or quantitative research methods, or a combination of the two? - How to choose an appropriate methodology for your particular project? 			

- How to find and formulate the research problem, aim, tasks in qualitative research?

2. Research project in social and humanitarian sciences: what is it? Discussion of selected research projects. The main issues in planning research: practical aspects, time, ethics. The requirements of research ethics.

Key words: research ethics in social and humanitarian sciences, research strategy.

Concepts: research project, sample, anonymity, confidentiality, responsibility.

Questions:

- What are the main issues a researcher needs to consider when planning research?
- - What are the moral and legal responsibilities of a researcher towards research participants?

Literature:

- Bernard H. Rusell (2006) *Research Methods in Anthropology. Qualitative and quantitative approaches*. 4th edition. Altamira Press.
- Lietuvos Respublikos akademinės etikos ir procedūrų kontrolieriaus 2020 12 10 įsakymas "Atitikties mokslinių tyrimų vertinimui gairės" // <https://etikostarnyba.lt/atitikties-moksliniu-tyrimu-etikai-vertinimas-zmogaus-teisems-uztikrinti/>
- Rabinow P., Marcus G.E., Faubon J.D., Rees T. (2008) *Designs for an anthropology of the contemporary*. Duke University Press.

3. Ethnographic fieldwork methods: observation and participant observation

Key words: sociocultural anthropology, ethnology, sociology.

Concepts: writing ethnography, reflexivity, ethics.

Literature:

- Spradley, James P. (1980) *Participant Observation*. Wadsworth.
- Bernard H. Rusell (2006) *Research Methods in Anthropology. Qualitative and quantitative approaches*. 4th edition. Altamira Press.
- Pink, Sarah (2014) *Doing sensory ethnography*. Los Angeles, London: Sage.

Key questions:

- What is descriptive observation, observation, participant observation, focused or selective observation?
- What should be observed and described and how?
- What are the main ethical principles of observation or participant observation?
- How do you analyse your data?

4. Interviews and interviewing. How to prepare interview guidelines. Practical assignments.

Key words: types of interview, interview guidelines

Concepts: unstructural interview, semi-structural interview, focus group interview, ethnographic interview

Literature:

- Kvale S. (1996) *InterViews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research Interviewing*. Thousand Oaks, London, New Delhi: SAGE Publications.
- Mack N., Woodsing C., MacQueen K., Guest G., Namey E. (2005) *Qualitative Research Methods: A Data Collector's Field Guide*. FHI.
- Spradley P.J. (1979) *The Ethnographic Interview*. Wadsworth.

Questions:

- How to conduct good interview?
- What are the main principles of unstructural, semi-structural, ethnographic and focus group interviews? Which type of interview serves what purposes?
- How questions are formulated in different types of interviews?
- What is the relation between research question and interview question?

5. Life story interview and biographical interview. Auto-ethnography.

Key words: life story, life history, biography in the context of migration research, traumatic experiences.

Concepts: life history, biographical method, auto-ethnography, analysis.

Literature:

- Lawthom R., Clough P., Moore M. (eds.) (2004) *Researching Life Stories: Method, theory and analysis in a biographical age*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Okeley J., Callaway H. (eds.) (1992) *Anthropology and Autobiography*. ASA Monographs 29. London and New York: Routledge.
- Thompson P. (2000) *The Voice of the Past: Oral History*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Questions:

- When life history / life story interview is applied?
- What is characteristic to life history, life story, biographical interview, autoethnography, oral history?
- Ethics.

6. Software programmes in text analysis. Practical tasks.

Key words: main steps of analysis.

Concepts: coding, categories, Atlas ti, Maquda.

- Literature: Bernard H. Russell (2006) *Research Methods in Anthropology. Qualitative and quantitative approaches*. 4th edition. Altamira Press.
- Saldana J. (2010) *The coding manual for Qualitative Researchers*. Sage publications.

Questions:

- How do we analyse data?
- What is coding?
- What is code, category, theme, subcode, subcategory?

7. Written sources and their qualitative analysis. Mass media and printed texts.

Key words: qualitative text analysis, mass media.

Concepts: critical discourse analysis, thematic analysis.

Literature:

- Bernard H. Russell (2006) *Research Methods in Anthropology. Qualitative and quantitative approaches.* 4th edition. Altamira Press.
- Woods Nicola (2006) *Describing Discourse: a practical guide to discourse analysis.* Hodder Arnold.

Questions:

- What are the main principles in analysis of printed texts?
- How do we select the sources of data.

8. Visual resources.

Key words: visual resources and ethnography.

Concepts: photo, video, audio

Literature:

- Mannay D. (2016) *Visual, narrative and creative research methods. Application, reflection and ethics.* London and New York: Routledge
- Banks Marcus (2001) *Visual methods in social research.* Sage publications.
- Pink, Sarah (2006) *The Future of Visual Anthropology. Engaging the Senses.* London and New York: Routledge

Questions:

- How photo or video could be used in qualitative research?
- How visual data is presented and analysed? what specific ethical requirements are for use of visual data?

9. Digital ethnography

Key words: qualitative research online.

Concepts: ethnography online, research online.

Literature:

- Kozinets R.V. (2010) *Netnography: doing ethnographic research online.* Los Angeles: Sage.
- Gaiser Ted J., Schreiner A.E. (2009) *A guide to conducting online research.* Sage.

Questions:

- What is research online? What are the main challenges of digital research?
- What are the methods of digital ethnography?
- What are the main issues of ethics in research online?

10. Data presentation in text. How to present data collected by different methods?

Key words: stages of text writing, ways of writing.

Concepts: reflexivity, multivocality, authorship.

Literature:

- Clifford J., Marcus G.E (1986) Writing Culture: the Poetics and Politics of Ethnography. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Questions:

- How to present data in text? Diverse ways of data presentation.
- How to achieve multivocality in the text?
- How your reflexivity is achieved?

Reading list

Main literature:

- Banks Marcus (2001) Visual methods in social research. Sage publications.
- Bernard H. Rusell (2006) Research Methods in Anthropology. Qualitative and quantitative approaches. 4th edition. Altamira Press.
- Bryman Alan, Burgess G. Robert (eds.) (1994) Analyzing Qualitative Data. London and New York: Routledge.
- Bryman, Alan (2008) Social Research Methods. 4th Edition. Oxford University Press.
- Clifford J., Marcus G.E (1986) Writing Culture: the Poetics and Politics of Ethnography. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Kozinets R.V. (2010) Netnography: doing ethnographic research online. Los Angeles: Sage.
- Kvale S. (1996) InterViews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research Interviewing. Thousand Oaks, London, New Delhi: SAGE Publications.
- Lawthom R., Clough P., Moore M. (eds.) (2004) Researching Life Stories: Method, theory and analysis in a biographical age. London and New York: Routledge.
- Mack N., Woodsing C., MacQueen K., Guest G., Namey E. (2005) Qualitative Research Methods: A Data Collector's Field Guide. FHI.
- Mannay D. (2016) Visual, narrative and creative research methods. Application, reflection and ethics. London and New York: Routledge
- Okeley J., Callaway H. (eds.) (1992) Anthropology and Autobiography. ASA Monographs 29. London and New York: Routledge.
- Pink, Sarah (2006) The Future of Visual Anthropology. Engaging the Senses. London and New York: Routledge
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- Spradley, James P. (1980) Participant Observation. Wadsworth.
- Spradley P.J. (1979) The Ethnographic Interview. Wadsworth.

Recommended literature:

- Lietuvos Respublikos akademinės etikos ir procedūrų kontrolieriaus 2020 12 10 įsakymas "Atitikties mokslinių tyrimų vertinimui gairės" // <https://etikostarnyba.lt/atitikties-moksliniu-tyrimu-etikai-vertinimas-zmogaus-teisems-uztikrinti/> Thompson P. (2000) The Voice of the Past: Oral History. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Woods Nicola (2006) Describing Discourse: a practical guide to discourse analysis. Hodder Arnold
- Gaiser Ted J., Schreiner A.E. (2009) A guide to conducting online research. Sage.

Advisers: academic degree, name and surname	Major research published in the last 5 years in the field
Doc dr. Kristina Šliavaitė	<p>Co-authored monographs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristina Šliavaitė, Monika Frėjutė-Rakauskienė, Andrius Marcinkevičius (2023) Lietuvos valstybingumo atkūrimas

tautinių mažumų pasirinkimuose: etniškumas, įtrauktis, pasirinkimai [The restoration of Lithuanian statehood from the perspectives of national minorities: ethnicity, inclusion, choices] Lithuanian center for social sciences. Available at: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://lstc.lt/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Lietuvos-valstybingumo-atkurimas-tautiniu-mazumu-perspektyvose-etniskumas-itrauktis-pasirinkimai.-Monografija.pdf

- Monika Frėjutė-Rakauskienė, Andrius Marcinkevičius, **Kristina Šliavaitė** (2022) *Etniškumo ir religijos sąveika kintančiuose socialiniuose ir istoriniuose kontekstuose: Lietuvos lenkai ir rusai. [The interplay of ethnicity and religion in transforming social and historical contexts: Poles and Russians in Lithuania]* LSMC Sociologijos institutas. Vilnius: Balto Print. (in Lithuanian). Available at: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.lstc.lt/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Etniskumo_ir_religijos_suveika.pdf

Articles published in international journals included into databases of Scopus or Web of Science:

- Šliavaitė K. (2023). Language, Religion, and Ethnicity-Making at Polish-language Schools in Lithuania. // *Polish Sociological Review*. Poland, Warsaw, Polish Sociological Association. 221 (1): 127-143. ISSN 1231-1413. Available at: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://polish-sociological-review.eu/pdf-162424-88489?filename=Language_%20Religion_%20and.pdf
- Klumbytė, N., Šliavaitė K. 2021. "Sovereignty and political belonging in post-Soviet Lithuania: ethnicity, migration and historical justice" // *Journal of Baltic Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/01629778.2021.1944237
- Šliavaitė K. 2021. "Kalba, religija ir etniškumas mokyklose lenkų ir rusų mokomosiomis kalbomis Lietuvoje: įvairovės (ne)atpažinimo praktikos, *Filosofija. Sociologija*. 32(2): 133-140.
- Frėjutė-Rakauskienė, M., Sasunkevich, O., **Šliavaitė, K.** 2021. Polish Ethnic Minority in Belarus and Lithuania: Politics, Institutions, and Identities. *Nationalities Papers*, 49 (6): 1132-1149, <https://doi.org/10.1017/nps.2020.80>
- Šliavaitė K. 2020. "Memory, identity and schooling: diverging and overlapping narratives about the Second World War and its outcomes at the schools with Russian as the language of instruction in Lithuania" // *Journal of Baltic Studies*, DOI:10.1080/01629778.2020.1825501

Articles in scientific reviewed journals:

- Šliavaitė, K. 2020 Ar baigėsi posocializmas Lietuvoje: antropologija ir posocializmo transformacijų etnografija // *Lietuvos etnologija* 20(29):9-35

Approved at the meeting of the Ethnology Doctoral Committee of VU, LLTI and LMTA on October 15, 2024, No. R6-7.

Chair of the Doctoral Committee

Dr. Daiva Vaitkevičienė