

## Crude Overview of Research Methodologies

Methodology	Organizing ideas	Goal	Typical methods	Suggested Reading
Phenomenology	Experience Meaning Bracketing Deconstruction	Understanding Description	Reflection (exegesis, interviews, language analysis) Empirical (personal experience, interviews, observation, fiction, “artistic” artifacts) Writing (language, metaphoric analysis, poetics)	<a href="http://www.phenomenologyonline.com">www.phenomenologyonline.com</a>
Symbolic Interactionism	Symbols Social interaction Subjective but socially constructed meanings Self Deviance (other)	Understanding Description	Participant observation Discourse analysis  Ethnomethodology—breaching experiments Dramaturgy—analysis of roles	Blumer, Herbert. 1969. <i>Symbolic Interactionism: Perspective and Method</i> . Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.  Berger and Luckmann. <i>The Social Construction of Reality: A Treatise in the Sociology of Knowledge</i> (Garden City, New York: Anchor Books, 1966)
Grounded Theory	Inductive Theory building Empirical case Emic perspective	Emergent middle level theory	Observation Interviews Constant comparison Open and axial coding Memoing (theorizing from the data through coding)	Glaser and Strauss (1967). <i>The Discovery of Grounded Theory</i> .  Strauss and Corbin (1990). <i>Basics of Qualitative Research</i> .

Ethnography	Culture (unified, coherent, more or less fixed) Natural context Description of meanings, norms, patterns Emic perspective	Understanding	Fieldwork Participant observation Interviews Document analysis Video, images Prolonged engagement Key informants	Clifford Geertz (1973) <i>The Interpretation of Cultures</i>  Harry Wolcott (1999) <i>Ethnography: A Way of Seeing</i>
Critical Ethnography	Culture (negotiated, contradictory, conflictual) Power structures (gender, social class, race) False consciousness Challenges oppressive ideologies	Understanding Emancipation Democracy	Fieldwork Participant observation Interviews Prolonged engagement	Gary L. Anderson. <i>Critical Ethnography in Education: Origins, Current Status, and New Directions</i> <i>Review of Educational Research</i> , Vol. 59, No. 3 (Autumn, 1989), pp. 249-270
Action Research	Spiral of action and reflection Iterative process Collective work	Understanding through change Improved practice	Observation Interviews Mapping Analysis of secondary data Trend analysis Time, place use	Kemmis, S., & McTaggart, R. (2000). Participatory action research. In N. Denzin and Y. Lincoln (Eds.), <i>The Handbook of Qualitative Research</i> (2nd ed.). London: Sage.