



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Education

Office of Research in Education

Faculty of Education

Vancouver Campus

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2020-2021 Research Methods Courses

Summer 2021 ORE-Sponsored Research Methods Courses

EDCP 538: Theory and Research in Environmental Education

Instructor: Dr. Sandra Scott Associate Professor of Teaching

Summer Term: 1

Day and Time: Tuesday & Thursday 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The course will begin with an exploration of personal perspectives on the human-nature relationship. We will address the relevance of eco-philosophical literature to personal eco-philosophies and draw upon the research interest to derive knowledge claims within a blended qualitative/quantitative context. We will then explore conceptions of environmental education as ecological thought as we interweave research and practice. As a community, we will engage with Place through Eco-Pedagogy, acknowledging our lived experiences, ideally ways of Knowing Being, Doing, & Healing across sciences, languages, humanities, and the arts. The following questions will guide our stories: How might environmental science, aesthetics, ethics, and histories together with environmental action and community inform our research and practice? What might we include as elements of our own eco-philosophies? Finally, claims of bias and indoctrination often confront those who care for the Earth and follow a goal of socio-political action. Can initiatives, especially those treating controversial issues and advocating for informed and responsible action, be defensible on educational grounds? How might we approach environmental problems of climate emergency and ecological devaluing and destruction that lead to crises such as Covid-19? Our work will be informed by deep ecology perspectives as we engage with and understand gifts of clean air, water, and soil, as human rights as well as Earth rights for the more-than-human world.

LLED565X: Qualitative Methods in Educational Research: Knowing, Doing and Being

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Jenson

Summer Term: 1

Day and Time: M-TH, hybrid - May 10-31 inclusive 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

This course is about the “doing” of qualitative research as a practical, ethically regulated engagement in “knowing, doing and being”. Investigating, interrogating and interpreting values, meanings and purposes unspoken and taken largely for granted in the course and conduct of everyday life is what distinguishes the study of human action from all other forms of inquiry. It is because questions of value, significance and agency form the core of such inquiry that, for qualitative researchers, epistemological and ethical



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issues converge in the very idea of what it is to conduct educational research. To that end, we will look both at the centre, and at the edges of what counts as a “methodology” and thereby, “research”.

Class activities will provide a guided apprenticeship into basic research practices, including observations, ethical review, fieldnotes, interviews, data interpretation, analysis, reporting and write-up. Students will read exemplary research studies and methodological approaches, and will propose and initiate a study of their own. Questions such as “What kind of story does this research tell?”, “Whose story is told, how, by whom, and for whose benefit?” and “How can qualitative research pursue ‘validity?’” will guide a comprehensive inquiry into contemporary qualitative research methodologies, methods and processes in education. We will also consider ways in which research practices are technologically reconfigured, and how this technological re-mediation impacts qualitative research methods and practices.