
Postgraduate Certificate in Mixed Methods Research in Health and Social Care

Foundations of Mixed Methods Research

Ablation Study In the context of mixed methods research in health and social care, an ablation study is not a standard term but may refer to the process of removing specific components of a mixed methods design to understand their individual contribution to the overall validity and reliability of the findings. This self-paced reflection encourages learners to consider how qualitative and quantitative strands complement each other. Related terms include triangulation and integration. By mentally removing one method, researchers can better appreciate the unique insights provided by the other, enhancing the robustness of the study design. This concept helps in justifying the choice of a mixed methods approach over a single-method design, emphasizing the added value of combining data types.

Abductive Reasoning Abductive reasoning is a logic of inference that seeks the most likely explanation for a set of observations. In mixed methods research, it bridges the gap between inductive reasoning from qualitative data and deductive reasoning from quantitative data. Learners should reflect on how abductive reasoning allows for the generation of new hypotheses when unexpected patterns emerge during data integration. Related terms include inference, logic, and hypothesis generation. This approach is particularly useful in health and social care where complex phenomena require flexible analytical strategies. It supports the iterative nature of mixed methods, allowing researchers to move back and forth between data and theory.

Access to Data Access to data refers to the ethical and practical considerations involved in obtaining permission to collect and use qualitative and quantitative data from participants in health and social care settings. This includes navigating institutional review boards, gaining trust from communities, and ensuring data security. Related terms include ethics, informed consent, and data protection. Self-reflection on access issues helps researchers anticipate barriers and develop strategies to engage diverse populations. Understanding the nuances of access is crucial for ensuring that the study sample is representative and that the data collected is valid and reliable.

Academic Integrity Academic integrity in mixed methods research involves honest reporting of methods, data, and findings, acknowledging limitations, and avoiding plagiarism. This self-paced learning component emphasizes the importance of transparency in describing how qualitative and quantitative data were integrated. Related terms include ethics, plagiarism, and transparency. Researchers must ensure that their work reflects the true complexity of the research process, including any challenges encountered during data collection and analysis. Upholding academic integrity builds trust in the research findings and contributes to the credibility of the field.

Adaptive Design An adaptive design in mixed methods research allows for modifications to the study

protocol based on interim findings. This flexibility is particularly valuable in health and social care where contexts can change rapidly. Related terms include iterative design, flexibility, and responsiveness. Learners should consider how adaptive designs can enhance the relevance and impact of the research by allowing for real-time adjustments. This approach requires careful planning and ethical consideration to ensure that changes do not compromise the study's validity or the participants' rights.

Aggregative Research Aggregative research focuses on summarizing data to identify general patterns and trends across a population. In mixed methods, this often involves combining quantitative results with qualitative themes to provide a comprehensive overview. Related terms include generalization, summary, and population-level analysis. This approach is useful for policy development and program evaluation in health and social care. Self-reflection on aggregative research helps learners understand the balance between breadth and depth in their studies.

Alignment Alignment refers to the coherence between the research questions, methods, data collection, analysis, and findings in a mixed methods study. Strong alignment ensures that each component of the study contributes to answering the research questions effectively. Related terms include coherence, consistency, and validity. Learners should reflect on how misalignment can lead to fragmented findings and reduced credibility. Ensuring alignment requires careful planning and continuous evaluation of the study design.

Analytic Generalization Analytic generalization involves applying findings from a specific study to broader theoretical frameworks or contexts. In mixed methods, this is achieved by integrating qualitative insights with quantitative patterns to develop robust theories. Related terms include theory building, transferability, and external validity. This concept encourages learners to think beyond their immediate sample and consider the wider implications of their research. It is particularly important in health and social care where interventions need to be scalable and adaptable.

Analytic Induction Analytic induction is a method of theory building that involves refining hypotheses through continuous comparison of data. In mixed methods, it helps in developing nuanced explanations for complex phenomena. Related terms include theory development, iteration, and refinement. Learners should reflect on how analytic induction supports the iterative nature of mixed methods research, allowing for the adjustment of theoretical frameworks as new data emerges.

Analytic Strategy An analytic strategy in mixed methods research outlines the plan for integrating qualitative and quantitative data to answer research questions. This includes decisions about the timing of integration, the level of integration, and the techniques used. Related terms include integration, synthesis, and design. Self-paced reading on analytic strategies helps learners understand the various options available and how to choose the most appropriate one for their study.

Analytic Triangulation Analytic triangulation involves using multiple analytical techniques or perspectives to interpret the same data set. This enhances the validity of the findings by reducing bias and providing a

more comprehensive understanding. Related terms include validity, bias reduction, and multiple perspectives. Learners should consider how analytic triangulation can be applied in mixed methods to strengthen the credibility of their conclusions.

Analytic Weighting Analytic weighting refers to the process of assigning different levels of importance to qualitative and quantitative data during integration. This is done based on the research questions and the strengths of each data type. Related terms include priority, emphasis, and integration. Self-reflection on analytic weighting helps learners justify their choices and ensure that the integration process is transparent and logical.

Analytic Generalizability Analytic generalizability is the extent to which findings from a study can be applied to other contexts or populations. In mixed methods, this is supported by the combination of statistical generalization from quantitative data and theoretical generalization from qualitative data. Related terms include external validity, transferability, and applicability. Learners should reflect on how to enhance the generalizability of their research through careful sampling and robust integration.

Analytic Integration Analytic integration involves combining qualitative and quantitative data at the analysis stage to generate new insights. This can be done through techniques such as joint displays, meta-inferences, or weaving. Related terms include synthesis, merging, and convergence. Self-paced learning on analytic integration helps learners understand the various methods available and how to choose the most appropriate one for their study.

Analytic Merging Analytic merging is a specific technique of analytic integration where qualitative and quantitative data are combined into a single data set for analysis. This allows for a more direct comparison and integration of findings. Related terms include joint display, data merging, and convergence. Learners should consider the advantages and disadvantages of analytic merging, such as the potential for loss of nuance in qualitative data.

Analytic Weaving Analytic weaving involves interweaving qualitative and quantitative findings in the discussion and interpretation of results. This creates a cohesive narrative that highlights the complementarity of the two data types. Related terms include narrative integration, storytelling, and synthesis. Self-reflection on analytic weaving helps learners develop skills in writing compelling and integrated reports.

Appreciative Inquiry Appreciative inquiry is a qualitative approach that focuses on identifying and building on strengths and successes rather than problems. In mixed methods, it can be combined with quantitative data to provide a balanced view of an intervention or program. Related terms include positive psychology, strengths-based approach, and evaluation. Learners should consider how appreciative inquiry can enhance the motivation and engagement of participants in health and social care research.

Archival Data Archival data refers to existing records, documents, or databases that can be used in mixed

methods research. This includes medical records, policy documents, and historical records. Related terms include secondary data, historical analysis, and document analysis. Self-paced reading on archival data helps learners understand the potential and limitations of using existing data in their studies.

Argumentation Argumentation in mixed methods research involves constructing a logical case for the findings based on the integrated evidence. This requires clear reasoning and justification for the conclusions drawn. Related terms include logic, justification, and reasoning. Learners should reflect on how strong argumentation enhances the credibility and impact of their research.

Assumption Assumptions are beliefs or premises that underpin the research design and analysis. In mixed methods, these may include assumptions about the nature of reality, the role of the researcher, and the relationship between qualitative and quantitative data. Related terms include ontology, epistemology, and paradigm. Self-reflection on assumptions helps learners become aware of their own biases and how these may influence their research.

Associational Analysis Associational analysis involves identifying relationships or correlations between variables in quantitative data and linking these to qualitative themes. This helps in understanding the context and mechanisms behind statistical associations. Related terms include correlation, relationship, and explanation. Learners should consider how associational analysis can enhance the depth of their findings.

Audience The audience for mixed methods research in health and social care may include policymakers, practitioners, academics, and service users. Tailoring the presentation of findings to the specific needs and interests of the audience is crucial for impact. Related terms include dissemination, communication, and stakeholder engagement. Self-paced learning on audience analysis helps learners develop effective communication strategies.

Audit Trail An audit trail is a detailed record of the research process, including decisions made, data collected, and analysis performed. This enhances the transparency and reproducibility of the study. Related terms include transparency, documentation, and rigor. Learners should reflect on the importance of maintaining a thorough audit trail in mixed methods research.

Authenticity Authenticity in mixed methods research refers to the extent to which the findings reflect the true experiences and perspectives of participants. This is particularly important in health and social care where participants' voices are central. Related terms include validity, trustworthiness, and representation. Self-reflection on authenticity helps learners ensure that their research is respectful and accurate.

Axiology Axiology is the study of values and ethics in research. In mixed methods, it involves considering the ethical implications of combining different data types and methods. Related terms include ethics, values, and moral philosophy. Learners should consider how their own values influence their research design and interpretation.

Back-Translation Back-translation is a technique used in qualitative research to ensure the accuracy of translations from one language to another. This is important in mixed methods research involving multilingual populations. Related terms include translation, accuracy, and cross-cultural research. Self-paced reading on back-translation helps learners understand the challenges of working with diverse linguistic groups.

Balance Balance in mixed methods research refers to the equal weighting of qualitative and quantitative components. This ensures that neither method dominates the study. Related terms include equality, parity, and integration. Learners should reflect on how to achieve balance in their own research designs.

Barriers Barriers in mixed methods research may include methodological, ethical, logistical, or financial challenges. Identifying and addressing these barriers is crucial for the success of the study. Related terms include challenges, obstacles, and problem-solving. Self-reflection on barriers helps learners develop resilience and creative solutions.

Baseline Data Baseline data refers to initial measurements or observations taken before an intervention or change occurs. In mixed methods, this can include both quantitative metrics and qualitative descriptions. Related terms include pre-intervention, starting point, and comparison. Learners should consider how baseline data enhances the validity of impact evaluations.

Bias Bias refers to systematic errors in research that can distort findings. In mixed methods, bias can occur in data collection, analysis, or interpretation. Related terms include validity, objectivity, and fairness. Self-paced learning on bias helps learners identify and mitigate potential sources of error.

Bracketing Bracketing is a qualitative technique where researchers set aside their own assumptions and biases to better understand participants' perspectives. In mixed methods, this helps in maintaining objectivity during integration. Related terms include reflexivity, neutrality, and phenomenology. Learners should reflect on how bracketing can enhance the credibility of their findings.

Case Study A case study is an in-depth investigation of a single case or a small number of cases. In mixed methods, this allows for detailed qualitative exploration combined with quantitative context. Related terms include depth, context, and narrative. Self-reflection on case study design helps learners understand the strengths and limitations of this approach.

Causal Inference Causal inference involves determining whether one variable causes changes in another. In mixed methods, this is supported by combining statistical evidence with qualitative explanations of mechanisms. Related terms include causality, mechanism, and explanation. Learners should consider how mixed methods can strengthen causal claims.

Categorical Network A categorical network is a qualitative analysis technique that organizes data into categories and subcategories. In mixed methods, this can be linked to quantitative variables for integrated

analysis. Related terms include coding, categorization, and structure. Self-paced learning on categorical networks helps learners develop systematic approaches to qualitative analysis.

Certainty Certainty in mixed methods research refers to the confidence in the findings. This is enhanced by rigorous design, robust analysis, and transparent reporting. Related terms include validity, reliability, and trustworthiness. Learners should reflect on how to communicate certainty appropriately to different audiences.

Change Theory Change theory provides a framework for understanding how and why interventions lead to outcomes. In mixed methods, this guides the selection of measures and the interpretation of results. Related terms include logic model, framework, and intervention. Self-reflection on change theory helps learners design more effective studies.

Challenges Challenges in mixed methods research may include methodological complexity, resource constraints, or ethical dilemmas. Addressing these challenges requires careful planning and problem-solving skills. Related terms include difficulties, obstacles, and solutions. Learners should consider how to anticipate and manage challenges in their own research.

Chronological Integration Chronological integration involves combining qualitative and quantitative data in a time-ordered sequence. This is useful for understanding processes and changes over time. Related terms include longitudinal, sequence, and timeline. Self-paced reading on chronological integration helps learners understand the temporal dimension of mixed methods.

Circularity Circularity in mixed methods research refers to the iterative process of moving between data, analysis, and theory. This allows for continuous refinement of understanding. Related terms include iteration, feedback, and refinement. Learners should reflect on how circularity enhances the depth of their analysis.

Citation Citation involves acknowledging the sources of information and ideas used in the research. This is essential for academic integrity and avoiding plagiarism. Related terms include referencing, attribution, and honesty. Self-reflection on citation practices helps learners uphold ethical standards.

Claim A claim is a statement of finding or conclusion in research. In mixed methods, claims should be supported by integrated evidence from both qualitative and quantitative data. Related terms include conclusion, finding, and assertion. Learners should consider how to make strong, evidence-based claims.

Clarity Clarity in mixed methods research refers to the clear and concise presentation of methods, findings, and conclusions. This enhances the readability and impact of the research. Related terms include transparency, simplicity, and communication. Self-paced learning on clarity helps learners develop effective writing skills.

Codebook A codebook is a document that defines the codes used in qualitative analysis. Related terms

include coding, definition, and structure. Learners should reflect on the importance of a well-developed codebook.

Coding Coding is the process of assigning labels to qualitative data to identify themes and patterns. In mixed methods, this can be done in conjunction with quantitative analysis. Related terms include categorization, labeling, and analysis. Self-reflection on coding techniques helps learners improve their qualitative analysis skills.

Cohort A cohort is a group of individuals who share a common characteristic or experience. In mixed methods, cohorts can be analyzed using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Related terms include group, sample, and population. Learners should consider how cohort design can enhance the validity of their studies.

Collaboration Collaboration in mixed methods research involves working with others, such as team members, participants, or stakeholders. This enhances the diversity of perspectives and the quality of the research. Related terms include teamwork, partnership, and engagement. Self-paced learning on collaboration helps learners develop effective interpersonal skills.

Collection Collection refers to the process of gathering data. In mixed methods, this involves both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods. Related terms include gathering, acquisition, and sampling. Learners should reflect on the best practices for data collection.

Colorblindness Colorblindness in research refers to the failure to acknowledge racial or ethnic differences. In mixed methods, this can lead to biased findings. Related terms include race, ethnicity, and bias. Self-reflection on colorblindness helps learners ensure that their research is inclusive and equitable.

Combination Combination refers to the merging of qualitative and quantitative data. This can be done at various stages of the research process. Related terms include integration, synthesis, and merging. Learners should consider the different ways to combine data effectively.

Commentary Commentary involves providing interpretation and context for the findings. In mixed methods, this helps in integrating qualitative and quantitative insights. Related terms include interpretation, explanation, and discussion. Self-paced learning on commentary helps learners develop critical thinking skills.

Comparison Comparison involves contrasting different groups, conditions, or time points. In mixed methods, this can be done using both quantitative and qualitative data. Related terms include contrast, difference, and analysis. Learners should reflect on how comparison enhances the depth of their findings.

Complementarity Complementarity refers to the way qualitative and quantitative data complement each other to provide a more complete picture. Related terms include synergy, enhancement, and integration. Self-reflection on complementarity helps learners justify their mixed methods design.

Complexity Complexity in mixed methods research refers to the intricate nature of the phenomena being studied. This requires flexible and adaptive research designs. Related terms include intricacy, difficulty, and nuance. Learners should consider how to manage complexity in their research.

Conceptual Framework A conceptual framework provides a structure for understanding the research problem. In mixed methods, this guides the selection of methods and the interpretation of results. Related terms include theory, model, and structure. Self-paced learning on conceptual frameworks helps learners develop a clear research direction.

Conceptualization Conceptualization involves defining and clarifying the key concepts in the research. This is crucial for ensuring that qualitative and quantitative measures are aligned. Related terms include definition, clarity, and alignment. Learners should reflect on the importance of clear conceptualization.

Condensation Condensation involves reducing large amounts of data into manageable themes or categories. In mixed methods, this helps in integrating qualitative and quantitative findings. Related terms include summarization, reduction, and synthesis. Self-reflection on condensation techniques helps learners improve their analysis skills.

Confidentiality Confidentiality refers to the protection of participants' identities and data. This is a key ethical consideration in mixed methods research. Related terms include privacy, security, and ethics. Learners should consider how to maintain confidentiality in their studies.

Confirmation Confirmation involves verifying findings through multiple sources or methods. In mixed methods, this enhances the validity of the results. Related terms include verification, validation, and triangulation. Self-paced learning on confirmation helps learners build robust evidence.

Conflict Conflict in mixed methods research may arise from differing perspectives or interpretations. Managing conflict requires effective communication and negotiation skills. Related terms include disagreement, tension, and resolution. Learners should reflect on how to handle conflict constructively.

Consequence Consequence refers to the outcomes or impacts of the research. In mixed methods, this includes both practical and theoretical implications. Related terms include impact, effect, and result. Self-reflection on consequences helps learners consider the wider significance of their work.

Consistency Consistency refers to the reliability and coherence of the research process and findings. In mixed methods, this is achieved through rigorous design and analysis. Related terms include reliability, coherence, and stability. Learners should consider how to ensure consistency in their research.

Construction Construction refers to the way knowledge is built through the research process. In mixed methods, this involves combining different perspectives and data types. Related terms include building, creation, and development. Self-paced learning on construction helps learners understand the epistemological basis of their research.

Context Context refers to the setting or environment in which the research takes place. In mixed methods, understanding context is crucial for interpreting findings. Related terms include setting, environment, and background. Learners should reflect on how context influences their research.

Contribution Contribution refers to the value added by the research to the field of health and social care. This includes theoretical, practical, and policy implications. Related terms include impact, significance, and value. Self-reflection on contribution helps learners articulate the importance of their work.

Convergence Convergence refers to the agreement or consistency between qualitative and quantitative findings. This enhances the validity of the results. Related terms include agreement, consistency, and alignment. Learners should consider how to interpret convergent findings.

Conversational Analysis Conversational analysis is a qualitative method for studying spoken interaction. In mixed methods, this can be combined with quantitative data on communication patterns. Related terms include discourse, interaction, and language. Self-paced learning on conversational analysis helps learners understand communication dynamics.

Corroboration Corroboration involves supporting findings with multiple sources of evidence. In mixed methods, this enhances the credibility of the results. Related terms include verification, confirmation, and support. Learners should reflect on how to use corroboration effectively.

Correlation Correlation refers to the statistical relationship between two variables. In mixed methods, this can be explored qualitatively to understand the mechanisms behind the relationship. Related terms include association, relationship, and link. Self-reflection on correlation helps learners interpret statistical findings.

Counseling Counseling in research refers to the support provided to participants who may be distressed by the research process. This is an ethical consideration in health and social care research. Related terms include support, care, and ethics. Learners should consider how to provide appropriate counseling.

Counternarrative A counternarrative is a story that challenges the dominant narrative. In mixed methods, this can be used to highlight marginalized perspectives. Related terms include alternative, challenge, and perspective. Self-paced learning on counternarrative helps learners develop critical awareness.

Credibility Credibility refers to the trustworthiness of the research findings. In mixed methods, this is enhanced by rigorous design and transparent reporting. Related terms include trust, reliability, and validity. Learners should reflect on how to enhance the credibility of their research.

Cross-Case Analysis Cross-case analysis involves comparing findings across multiple cases. In mixed methods, this can be done using both qualitative and quantitative data. Related terms as comparison, synthesis, and generalization. Self-reflection on cross-case analysis helps learners identify broader patterns.

Cultural Sensitivity Cultural sensitivity involves respecting and understanding the cultural backgrounds of

participants. This is crucial for ethical and effective research in diverse populations. Related terms include respect, understanding, and diversity. Learners should consider how to be culturally sensitive in their research.

Curation Curation refers to the careful selection and organization of data. In mixed methods, this helps in managing large and complex data sets. Related terms include selection, organization, and management. Self-paced learning on curation helps learners develop efficient data management skills.

Curriculum Curriculum in the context of this course refers to the structured learning path for mixed methods research. This includes self-paced reading, knowledge checks, and optional self-reflection. Related terms include syllabus, content, and structure. Learners should familiarize themselves with the curriculum to maximize their learning.

Data Data refers to the information collected during the research process. In mixed methods, this includes both qualitative and quantitative data. Related terms include information, evidence, and facts. Self-reflection on data quality helps learners ensure the validity of their findings.

Data Collection Data collection is the process of gathering information from participants. In mixed methods, this involves various tools and techniques. Related terms include gathering, acquisition, and methods. Learners should consider the best practices for data collection.

Data Integration Data integration involves combining qualitative and quantitative data to generate new insights. This is a core component of mixed methods research. Related terms include synthesis, merging, and combination. Self-paced learning on data integration helps learners develop essential skills.

Data Management Data management involves organizing, storing, and protecting research data. This is crucial for ethical and efficient research. Related terms include organization, security, and ethics. Learners should reflect on the importance of good data management.

Data Quality Data quality refers to the accuracy, reliability, and validity of the data collected. In mixed methods, this is enhanced by rigorous design and analysis. Related terms include accuracy, reliability, and validity. Self-reflection on data quality helps learners improve their research practices.

Database A database is a structured collection of data. In mixed methods, databases can be used to store and analyze both qualitative and quantitative data. Related terms include storage, organization, and analysis. Learners should consider the benefits of using databases.

Deduction Deduction is a logical process of deriving specific conclusions from general principles. In mixed methods, this is often used in quantitative analysis. Related terms include logic, reasoning, and hypothesis testing. Self-paced learning on deduction helps learners understand quantitative methods.

Definition Definition involves clearly stating the meaning of key terms and concepts. This is crucial for

ensuring clarity and consistency in mixed methods research. Related terms include clarity, precision, and understanding. Learners should reflect on the importance of clear definitions.

Demographics Demographics refer to the statistical characteristics of a population, such as age, gender, and income. In mixed methods, this provides context for qualitative findings. Related terms include statistics, population, and characteristics. Self-reflection on demographics helps learners understand their sample.

Design Design refers to the overall plan for the research study. In mixed methods, this includes decisions about the timing, priority, and integration of methods. Related terms include plan, structure, and strategy. Learners should consider the various mixed methods designs available.

Determinism Determinism is the belief that events are determined by prior causes. In mixed methods, this influences the choice of methods and the interpretation of results. Related terms include causality, cause, and effect. Self-paced learning on determinism helps learners understand philosophical underpinnings.

Dichotomy Dichotomy refers to the division of something into two mutually exclusive categories. In mixed methods, this is often challenged by the integration of qualitative and quantitative approaches. Related terms include division, separation, and binary. Learners should reflect on how to move beyond dichotomies.

Dimension Dimension refers to a particular aspect or feature of a phenomenon. In mixed methods, multiple dimensions can be explored using different methods. Related terms include aspect, feature, and component. Self-reflection on dimensions helps learners develop a comprehensive understanding.

Directionality Directionality refers to the flow of the research process, from questions to methods to findings. In mixed methods, this can be sequential or concurrent. Related terms include flow, sequence, and order. Learners should consider the directionality of their study design.

Discrepancy Discrepancy refers to differences or inconsistencies between qualitative and quantitative findings. In mixed methods, this can provide valuable insights into complexity. Related terms include difference, inconsistency, and contrast. Self-paced learning on discrepancy helps learners interpret conflicting results.

Dissemination Dissemination involves sharing research findings with stakeholders and the wider community. In mixed methods, this requires clear and accessible communication. Related terms include sharing, communication, and impact. Learners should reflect on effective dissemination strategies.

Diversity Diversity refers to the variety of perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences in the research sample. In mixed methods, this enhances the richness of the findings. Related terms include variety, difference, and inclusion. Self-reflection on diversity helps learners ensure representative sampling.

Document Analysis Document analysis involves examining existing documents to gather data. In mixed methods, this can be combined with other data sources. Related terms include review, examination, and

secondary data. Learners should consider the potential of document analysis.

Dominance Dominance refers to the priority given to one method over another in a mixed methods study. This is a design decision that should be justified. Related terms include priority, emphasis, and hierarchy. Self-paced learning on dominance helps learners make informed design choices.

Domain Domain refers to the field or area of study. In this course, the domain is health and social care. Related terms include field, area, and discipline. Learners should understand the specific context of their domain.

Double Triangulation Double triangulation involves using multiple methods and multiple data sources to enhance validity. In mixed methods, this is a powerful strategy. Related terms include validity, robustness, and verification. Self-reflection on double triangulation helps learners strengthen their research.

Drafting Drafting involves writing initial versions of research reports. In mixed methods, this helps in organizing integrated findings. Related terms include writing, composition, and structure. Learners should practice drafting to improve their communication skills.

Ecological Validity Ecological validity refers to the extent to which research findings can be generalized to real-world settings. In mixed methods, this is enhanced by using naturalistic data. Related terms as generalization, real-world, and application. Self-paced learning on ecological validity helps learners consider practical implications.

Effect Size Effect size is a statistical measure of the magnitude of a difference or relationship. In mixed methods, this can be interpreted qualitatively to understand significance. Related terms include magnitude, impact, and statistics. Learners should reflect on the meaning of effect sizes.

Efficiency Efficiency refers to the optimal use of resources in research. In mixed methods, this can be achieved through careful design and planning. Related terms include optimization, resource management, and productivity. Self-reflection on efficiency helps learners manage their projects effectively.

Ethics Ethics refers to the moral principles guiding research conduct. In mixed methods, this includes considerations of consent, confidentiality, and respect. Related terms include morality, principles, and responsibility. Learners should prioritize ethical considerations in their research.

Evaluation Evaluation involves assessing the value or effectiveness of an intervention. In mixed methods, this combines quantitative outcomes with qualitative experiences. Related terms include assessment, judgment, and impact. Self-paced learning on evaluation helps learners understand applied research.

Evidence Evidence refers to the data and findings that support research claims. In mixed methods, this includes both qualitative and quantitative evidence. Related terms include proof, support, and justification. Learners should reflect on the strength of their evidence.

Exclusion Exclusion refers to the criteria for excluding participants from the study. In mixed methods, this should be clearly defined and justified. Related terms as criteria, selection, and sampling. Self-reflection on exclusion helps learners ensure fair sampling.

Exploration Exploration involves investigating a phenomenon in depth. In mixed methods, this is often done using qualitative methods. Related terms include investigation, discovery, and understanding. Learners should consider the role of exploration in their research.

Explanation Explanation involves providing reasons for observed phenomena. In mixed methods, this combines statistical relationships with qualitative insights. Related terms include reason, cause, and interpretation. Self-paced learning on explanation helps learners develop deeper understanding.

Experiment An experiment is a research design where variables are manipulated to observe effects. In mixed methods, this can be combined with qualitative data. Related terms include manipulation, control, and causality. Learners should understand the place of experiments in mixed methods.

External Validity External validity refers to the extent to which findings can be generalized to other settings. In mixed methods, this is supported by diverse sampling and integration. Related terms include generalization, applicability, and transferability. Self-reflection on external validity helps learners consider broader implications.

Extraction Extraction involves retrieving data from sources. In mixed methods, this includes both quantitative and qualitative data. Related terms include retrieval, gathering, and collection. Learners should consider efficient extraction techniques.

Face Validity Face validity refers to the extent to which a measure appears to assess what it is supposed to. In mixed methods, this is checked through participant feedback. Related terms include appearance, perception, and validity. Self-paced learning on face validity helps learners improve their measures.

Faithfulness Faithfulness refers to the accuracy of the representation of participants' views. In mixed methods, this is crucial for ethical research. Related terms include accuracy, representation, and honesty. Learners should reflect on maintaining faithfulness.

Feasibility Feasibility refers to the practicality of conducting the research. In mixed methods, this involves considering time, resources, and expertise. Related terms include practicality, viability, and capability. Self-reflection on feasibility helps learners plan realistic studies.

Fidelity Fidelity refers to the degree to which an intervention is implemented as intended. In mixed methods, this can be assessed using both quantitative and qualitative data. Related terms include adherence, accuracy, and implementation. Learners should consider fidelity in evaluation studies.

Filtering Filtering involves selecting relevant data for analysis. In mixed methods, this helps in managing

large data sets. Related terms include selection, screening, and refinement. Self-paced learning on filtering helps learners improve data management.

Finalization Finalization involves completing the research process and preparing the final report. In mixed methods, this includes integrating all findings. Related terms include completion, conclusion, and reporting. Learners should reflect on the finalization process.

Flexibility Flexibility refers to the ability to adapt the research design to emerging findings. In mixed methods, this is a key advantage. Related terms include adaptability, responsiveness, and iteration. Self-reflection on flexibility helps learners manage uncertainty.

Focus Group A focus group is a qualitative method where a small group discusses a topic. In mixed methods, this can be combined with survey data. Related terms include discussion, group, and qualitative. Learners should understand the use of focus groups.

Framework A framework provides a structure for organizing research. In mixed methods, this guides the integration of data. Related terms include structure, model, and guide. Self-paced learning on frameworks helps learners organize their thinking.

Frequency Frequency refers to the number of times an event occurs. In mixed methods, this is a quantitative measure that can be explored qualitatively. Related terms include count, occurrence, and statistics. Learners should reflect on the meaning of frequency.

Generalization Generalization involves applying findings to broader populations. In mixed methods, this is supported by both statistical and theoretical approaches. Related terms include application, transferability, and external validity. Self-reflection on generalization helps learners consider impact.

Genre Genre refers to the type or style of research writing. In mixed methods, this may include integrated reports. Related terms include style, format, and structure. Learners should understand the genre of mixed methods reporting.

Grounded Theory Grounded theory is a qualitative method for developing theory from data. In mixed methods, this can be combined with quantitative testing. Related terms include theory building, induction, and qualitative. Self-paced learning on grounded theory helps learners understand theory development.

Guideline A guideline provides recommendations for research conduct. In mixed methods, this includes standards for integration. Related terms include recommendation, standard, and advice. Learners should follow relevant guidelines.

Hierarchy Hierarchy refers to the ranking of methods or data types. In mixed methods, this is often avoided to ensure balance. Related terms include ranking, priority, and order. Self-reflection on hierarchy helps learners ensure equity.

Heterogeneity Heterogeneity refers to the diversity within a sample. In mixed methods, this enhances the richness of findings. Related terms include diversity, variation, and difference. Learners should consider heterogeneity in sampling.

Holism Holism refers to the view that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. In mixed methods, this supports the integration of different data types. Related terms include wholeness, integration, and systems. Self-paced learning on holism helps learners appreciate mixed methods.

Hypothesis A hypothesis is a testable prediction. In mixed methods, this can be tested quantitatively and explored qualitatively. Related terms include prediction, assumption, and test. Learners should understand the role of hypotheses.

Identification Identification involves recognizing patterns or themes in data. In mixed methods, this is done for both qualitative and quantitative data. Related terms include recognition, pattern, and theme. Self-reflection on identification helps learners improve analysis.

Impact Impact refers to the effect of the research on practice or policy. In mixed methods, this is often a key goal. Related terms include effect, influence, and outcome. Learners should consider the potential impact of their research.

Inclusion Inclusion refers to the criteria for selecting participants. In mixed methods, this should be inclusive and representative. Related terms include selection, sampling, and diversity. Self-paced learning on inclusion helps learners ensure fair sampling.

Induction Induction is a logical process of deriving general principles from specific observations.