



Contents

Preface	xv
1. Introduction	1
Purpose	2
Rationale for This Book	3
Selection of the Five Traditions	4
Limits and Situatedness	8
Audience	10
Organization	10
2. Designing a Qualitative Study	13
Defining Qualitative Research	14
Reasons for Conducting Qualitative Research	16
Phases in the Design of a Study	18
Format for Planning a Study	22
Summary	24
▼ Additional Readings	24
▼ Exercises	26

3. Five Different Qualitative Studies	27
A Biographical Life History	29
A Phenomenology	31
A Grounded Theory Study	33
An Ethnography	34
A Case Study	36
Differentiating the Traditions by Foci	37
Summary	40
▼ Additional Readings	41
▼ Exercises	45
4. Five Qualitative Traditions of Inquiry	47
A Biography	47
A Phenomenological Study	51
A Grounded Theory Study	55
An Ethnography	58
A Case Study	61
The Five Traditions Compared	64
Summary	68
▼ Additional Readings	68
▼ Exercises	72
5. Philosophical and Theoretical Frameworks	73
Five Philosophical Assumptions	74
Ideological Perspectives	78
Postmodernism	79
Critical Theory	80
Feminist Approaches	83
Theory Use and the Five Traditions	84
A Biography	85
A Phenomenology	86
A Grounded Theory Study	86
An Ethnography	86
A Case Study	87
Summary	87
▼ Additional Readings	88
▼ Exercises	91

6. Introducing and Focusing the Study	93
The Problem Statement	94
The Purpose Statement	95
The Research Questions	99
The Central Question	99
Subquestions	101
Summary	105
▼ Additional Readings	106
▼ Exercises	107
7. Data Collection	109
A Data Collection Circle	110
The Site or Individual	111
Access and Rapport	115
Purposeful Sampling Strategy	118
Forms of Data	120
Interviewing	123
Observing	125
Recording Procedures	126
Field Issues	128
Storing Data	133
Five Traditions Compared	134
Summary	135
▼ Additional Readings	136
▼ Exercises	137
8. Data Analysis and Representation	139
Three Analysis Strategies	140
The Data Analysis Spiral	142
Analysis Within Traditions of Inquiry	146
Biography	146
Phenomenology	147
Grounded Theory	150
Ethnography	152
Case Study	153
Comparing the Five Traditions	154

Computers, Analysis, and Traditions	155
Using NUD·IST and Analysis Features	157
Summary	163
▼ Additional Readings	164
▼ Exercises	165
9. Writing the Narrative Report	167
Several Rhetorical Issues	168
Audience	168
Encoding	169
Quotes	170
Authorial Representation	171
Biography	172
Overall Rhetorical Structure	173
Embedded Rhetorical Structure	174
Phenomenology	175
Overall Rhetorical Structure	175
Embedded Rhetorical Structure	177
Grounded Theory	178
Overall Rhetorical Structure	178
Embedded Rhetorical Structure	180
Ethnography	181
Overall Rhetorical Structure	181
Embedded Rhetorical Structure	183
Case Study	186
Overall Rhetorical Structure	186
Embedded Rhetorical Structure	187
A Comparison of Narrative Structures	189
Summary	189
▼ Additional Readings	190
▼ Exercises	191
10. Standards of Quality and Verification	193
Issues in the Discussion of Standards	194
Perspectives, Terms, and Procedures of Verification	197
Exploring Perspectives and Terms	197
Exploring Procedures	201

Standards and Verification Within Traditions of Inquiry	204
Biography	204
Phenomenology	207
Grounded Theory	208
Ethnography	210
Case Study	213
Comparing the Traditions	215
Summary	217
▼ Additional Readings	217
▼ Exercises	218
11. "Turning the Story" and Conclusion	219
Turning the Story	220
A Case Study	221
A Biography	222
A Phenomenology	223
A Grounded Theory Study	224
An Ethnography	225
Conclusion	227
▼ Exercises	229
Appendix A: An Annotated Glossary of Terms	231
Appendix B: A Biography—Michael V. Angrosino, "On the Bus With Vonnie Lee: Explorations in Life History and Metaphor"	257
Appendix C: A Phenomenology—Doris J. Riemen, "The Essential Structure of a Caring Interaction: Doing Phenomenology"	271
Appendix D: A Grounded Theory Study—Susan L. Morrow and Mary Lee Smith, "Constructions of Survival and Coping by Women Who Have Survived Childhood Sexual Abuse"	297
Appendix E: An Ethnography—Harry F. Wolcott, "The Elementary School Principal: Notes From a Field Study"	323

Appendix F: A Case Study—Kelly J. Asmussen and John W. Creswell, “Campus Response to a Student Gunman”	357
References	375
Author Index	389
Subject Index	393
About the Author	403



Analytic Table of Contents by Tradition

Biography

Use of sociological interpretive approach	5
Key books and references	7
Summary and aspects of a life history study	29-31
The focus of a biographical life history	37
Definition, origin, variants, procedures, and challenges	47-51
Use of theory	85
Research questions	101
Individual to be studied	111
Access and rapport issues	117
Sampling strategy	118
Forms of data	122-122
Data recording, field issues, and storage	126-134
Data analysis	146-147
Writing a biography	172-175
Standards of quality and verification	204-207
Case study "turned" into a biography	222-223

Phenomenology

Use of psychological approach	7
Key books and references	7
Summary and aspects of a phenomenological study	31-33
The focus of a phenomenological study	37
Definition, origin, variants, procedures, and challenges	51-55
Use of theory	86
Research questions	102
Participants in the study	111
Access issues	117
Sampling strategy	118
Forms of data	122
Data recording, field issues, and storage	126-134
Data analysis	147, 150
Writing a phenomenological study	175-178
Standards of quality and verification	207-208
Case study "turned" into a phenomenology	223-224

Grounded Theory

Use of sociological approach	7
Key books and references	7-8
Summary and aspects of a grounded theory study	33-34
The focus of a grounded theory study	37
Definition, origin, variants, procedures, and challenges	55-58
Use of theory	86
Research questions	103
Participants in the study	111, 114
Access issues	117
Sampling strategy	118
Forms of data	122
Data recording, field issues, and storage	126-134
Data analysis	150-152
Writing a grounded theory study	178-181
Standards of quality and verification	208-210
Case study "turned" into a grounded theory study	224-225

Ethnography

Use of anthropological and sociological approach	7
Key books and references	8
Summary and aspects of an ethnographic study	34-35
The focus of an ethnographic study	37
Definition, origin, variants, procedures, and challenges	58-61
Use of theory	86
Research questions	104
Site to be studied	114
Access and rapport issues	117
Sampling strategy	120
Forms of data	122-123
Data recording, field issues, and storage	126-134
Data analysis	152-153
Writing an ethnography	181-186
Standards of quality and verification	210-213
Case study "turned" into an ethnography	225-227

Case Study

Use of evaluation approach	7
Key books and references	8
Summary and aspects of a case study	36-37
The focus of a case study	38
Definition, origin, variants, procedures, and challenges	61-64
Use of theory	87
Research questions	104-105
Site to be studied	114
Access and rapport issues	117
Sampling strategy	120
Forms of data	123
Data recording, field issues, and storage	126-134
Data analysis	153-154
Writing a case study	186-189
Standards of quality and verification	213-215
Review of a case study	221-222