

# MIED4020 23V Research Methods II

In the spring semester, I taught the MIED4020 Research Methods II course. This course includes students from the Higher education and Education and social change tracks.

## Overall Assessment: What went well

Overall, the course progressed well. The students seemed to be happy with the practical part of the course, which included conducting interviews in class and doing data analysis in the lab using software such as NVIVO and R.

## Issues that did not go well

- This course is only 5 credits, and given the content expected to be covered for qualitative and quantitative topics, the time is not enough. The practical classes which students found more useful were hard to organise within the available time.
- There were also a few overlaps in the content covered in the Research Methods 1 course, which meant that some of the content was repeated.
- The assessment of this course was writing a research proposal. However, this assessment does not align well with the objectives of the course and the content covered.
- Some students felt they had not covered enough theoretical topics in their respective specializations, which meant finding good topics relevant to their specialisations was difficult.

## Recommendations

- The first methods course should cover a large part of the theoretical concepts of the research methods.
- The Research Methods 2 course should be more practical-oriented
- The assessment of the course should not be a proposal since this does not provide room for students to show their understanding of the methods. Also, since the next course in the same semester (e.g., masters' thesis course) requires students to write a proposal, the Methods 2 course should not ask for a similar form of assessment.
- The teachers of research methods 1 and 2 courses should work together to avoid overlaps (*this has been done for the next spring semester*).