Instructor: Leila Harris

Day/Time: Tuesdays 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: AERL 107

Enrollment: Graduate Students (or advanced undergraduates with instructor approval and completed [G+PS form](https://www.grad.ubc.ca/forms/enrolment-undergraduate-students-graduate-course))

**Description**

This course offers an introduction to qualitative research approaches and their practical applications for interdisciplinary research related to socio-ecological sustainability. Using a student-led learning format, we will undertake original research as well as read and critically assess qualitative research conducted in interdisciplinary contexts. We will discuss the relationship between research motivations, paradigms, and methodological choices, ethical considerations and the process of ethics review, and fieldwork experiences in both academic and applied research settings. Careful examination of representation, voice, reflexivity and researcher positioning will be investigated as part of the course. The course includes activities and assessments related to qualitative research design, ethics approvals, fieldwork methods (including observation and fieldnotes, interviewing, focus groups, visual and arts-based methods, community engagement) and approaches to qualitative data analysis, including coding, analysis, and write up. Students will design and carry out an original field research project incorporating qualitative methods. Options include projects with UBC SEEDS collaborators to improve sustainability issues on the UBC campus.