

Depth interviewing skills

Thursday 17th and Friday 18th February 2022

This two-day course gives participants an understanding of, and experience in using, the skills and techniques involved in conducting qualitative interviews to a high standard. It will be delivered via a combination of taught and practical sessions. The trainers all have extensive experience of conducting in-depth interviews for qualitative studies.

Who should come on this course?

This course will be useful to you if you:

- are new to qualitative research, or just starting to conduct in-depth interviews
- have experience of doing qualitative interviews but lack training and/or would like a refresher
- commission or manage qualitative research in central or local government, health or other applied policy sectors

Learning objectives

By the end of the module, participants will:

- able to locate where the in-depth interview sits on the continuum of interview approaches
- able to identify the key features and objectives of in-depth interviews
- familiar with, and able to put into practice, the essential skills of in-depth interviewing: active listening; open questioning and probing
- able to design and use a topic guide
- able to explain the attributes which are required to fulfil the interviewer role
- able to demonstrate awareness of, and competence in, different aspects of managing the interview process
- experienced in conducting in-depth interviews through the practical sessions included in the course

Programme – Thursday 9 September 2021

9.15am	Arrival and registration	
9.25am	1. Introductions: Introduction to the training and the trainers. Icebreaker: working in pairs to learn about each other's background and aspirations for the day. Group feedback	Mehul Kotecha
10.15am	2. Short demonstration interview followed by feedback Topic guide: views and experiences of recycling	Mehul Kotecha
11am	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>	
11.15am	3. The in-depth interview: participants will learn about the key features of the in-depth interview and its role within the wider research process.	Sarah Frankenburg
12pm	<i>Short comfort break</i>	
12:05pm	4. In-depth interviewing skills - listening & questioning: this session uses a mixture of taught and practical methods to introduce participants to the key skills involved in carrying out depth interviews: active listening and open questioning	Sarah Frankenburg
12.50pm	<i>Lunch</i>	
1.45pm	5. Achieving depth – probing skills: in order to obtain useful data from an in-depth interview, achieving depth is critical. This session explores how to elicit depth of data through the use of probing	Mehul Kotecha
2:45pm	<i>Short comfort break</i>	
2.50pm	6. Designing and using a topic guide: the topic guide is the principal tool used to conduct the interviews. This session focuses on the essential factors that need to be taken into account when designing and using a topic guide.	Sarah Frankenburg
3.20pm	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>	
3.30pm	7. Practical session: participants work in small groups to design a topic guide.	Mehul Kotecha Sarah Frankenburg Maria David
4.20pm	Feedback and Discussion	Mehul Kotecha Sarah Frankenburg Maria David
5pm	Close	

Friday 10th September

9.15am	Arrival and registration with	
9.25am	Reflections on previous day's learning	
9.45am	8. Practical session 1: Using <i>video clips</i> of research scenarios to explore the issues of working with different participant groups.	Mehul Kotecha
10.45am	<i>Coffee</i>	
11.00am	9. Considerations before the interview: this session looks at what researchers need to consider before the interview takes place – ethics, consent, disclosure, recruitment and support for researchers.	
11.30am	<i>Short comfort break</i>	
11.40pm	10. Managing the interview: as well as developing skills and attributes, interviewers need to understand how to manage different interview dynamics. This session explores potential challenges and looks at strategies for dealing with such situations	Sarah Frankenburg
12.40pm	<i>Lunch</i>	
1.15pm	11. Practical session 3 triad: <i>practice interview session in small groups</i>	Mehul Kotecha Sarah Frankenburg Maria David
1.55pm	<i>Short comfort break</i>	
2pm	Practical session 4 triad: <i>practice interview session in small groups</i>	Mehul Kotecha Sarah Frankenburg Maria David
2.40pm	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>	
2.45pm	Practical session 5 triad: <i>practice interview session in small groups</i>	Mehul Kotecha Sarah Frankenburg Maria David
3.25pm	Feedback and discussion: any questions or other issues, views about the course – evaluation forms	Mehul Kotecha Sarah Frankenburg Maria David
3.45pm	Close	