

Brief individual report on advanced qualitative research in global health course, Copenhagen 2018.

I attended a course on advanced qualitative research in global health, which took place from the 23rd of April to the 4th of May at the University of Copenhagen. The course was intended for PhD students who had some experience with working with qualitative research and preferably had collected some data.

The first week of the course placed emphasized the importance of theory in qualitative research, and the various ontological, epistemological and methodology paradigms that guide research. This was very important theoretical knowledge that every early career scientist would very necessary. There were lots of opportunities to apply these concepts to our individual research projects, with feed back from the highly knowledgeable faculty.

The second week of the course addressed very practical issues like data analysis using thematic analysis. This was taught hands on, and every participant got opportunity to conduct thematic analysis during the small group sessions. Other practical issues like working in collaborations, ethics, and publication were also addressed.

I personally feel very confident in the theoretical rational of conducting qualitative research in global public health. In addition, I learnt the importance of incorporating theoretical objectives in my work, and publications as these can be applied to wider areas. I obtained a lot of useful learning materials that I could use to conduct similar trainings back home. I am now very confident conducting thematic analysis. I also made plenty of friends with colleagues doing similar work.

I am very satisfied with this course, and I can say it's a must do for all students doing qualitative research in global public health. This is especially true for those whose primary degree is not anthropology or sociology.



Fig 1. Participants attending the advanced qualitative course