

## QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE PARADIGM ASSUMPTIONS

<b>View</b>	<b>Ontological Assumption</b>	<b>Epistemological Assumption</b>	<b>Axiological Assumption</b>	<b>Methodological Assumption</b>	<b>Rhetorical Assumption</b>	
<b>Research Paradigm</b>	<b>Nature of reality</b>	<b>Relationship of researcher</b>	<b>Role of Values</b>	<b>Process of research</b>	<b>Language of research</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Quantitative	Objective, apart from researcher	Researcher is independent from what is being researched	Value free and unbiased (!) Values are emotive and therefore outside the scientific inquiry	Deductive process Cause and effect Context free	Formal Based on set definitions Impersonal voice	To explain and predict
Qualitative*	Reality is subjective and multiple as seen by participants in the study	Researcher interacts with that being researched	Value laden and biased (!) Values are personally relative; need to be understood critique of ideologies will promote needed social change	Inductive Process Mutual simultaneously shaping factors Emerging design Context bound	Sometimes informal Evolving decisions Personal voice	To understand and interpret To critique and to identify potential

<b>Quantitative (a.k.a)</b>	<b>Methods include</b>
Traditional	Experiments, Quasi Experiments, Surveys-longitudinal and cross sectional
Positivistic	
Experimental	
Empirical	
<b>Qualitative (a.k.a)</b>	<b>Ethnography, grounded theory, case studies, participatory action research, phenomenology</b>
Constructivist	
Interpretive	
Historical	
Postmodern/ Postpositivistic	

Jehangir Summer 2003. Adapted from:

Creswell, J. W. (1994). *Research Design: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications

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