

## Mixed methods research in nursing science (5 ects)

### Time:

Lectures (2 days): 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2026 and

Seminar (1 day): 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2026

### Place:

Lectures at University of Turku, Finland, seminar online

### Course leaders:

Minna Stolt, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services County of Satakunta (main responsibility)

Tarja Kvist, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Eastern Finland

### Teachers:

**Ahtisham Younas**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

**Tarja Kvist**, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Eastern Finland

**Minna Stolt**, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services County of Satakunta of Turku

### Teaching methods:

Lectures, exercises, independent writing, group and seminar working and presentation

### Learning outcomes:

- After the course, the student will understand the nature and design of mixed methods research.
- Students will understand how to identify and formulate research problems in mixed methods.
- Students will identify and develop various type of mixed methods research questions.
- The students will know how combining (integrating) qualitative and quantitative approaches and data can generate deeper understanding of complex healthcare issues.
- Students will learn the features of core and complex mixed methods designs.
- Students will learn how to analyze qualitative and quantitative data within a mixed methods study and various mixed methods design specific integration procedures for generating inferences and metainferences.
- The student understands how results obtained from the mixed methods research are interpreted and reported.
- The students will understand how to critically appraise mixed methods studies.

Evaluation: Pass – Fail

Registration: 17 Aug 2026 at the latest, via [Hovato](#) or Peppi (UTU and Hovato researchers)

### Further information:

Minna Stolt, PhD, Professor, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, [minna.stolt@utu.fi](mailto:minna.stolt@utu.fi)

## Program

### Lectures

#### 24<sup>th</sup> August 2026 (day 1)

Place: lecture room Dent3, Dentalia, University of Turku, Finland

9.00-9.15 Welcome and introduction to course

Minna Stolt, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services County of Satakunta

Tarja Kvist, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Eastern Finland

9.15-11.00 Theoretical and philosophical introduction to mixed methods research – advantages and challenges

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

11.00-12.00 Lunch

12.00-12.45 How to Use Mixed Methods Research? Understanding different Mixed Methods Designs  
Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

12.45-13.30 How to Ensure Rigor in Mixed Methods Research? Considering Mixed Methods Research Quality

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

13.30-14.00 Discussion about students' questions and break

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

Minna Stolt, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services County of Satakunta

Tarja Kvist, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Eastern Finland

14.00-15.00 Evaluating the quality of mixed methods research reports and understanding generalization of mixed methods

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

15.00-16.00 Group discussion and ending the day 1

Minna Stolt, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services County of Satakunta

Tarja Kvist, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Eastern Finland

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

**25<sup>th</sup> August 2026 (day 2)**

Place: lecture room Dent3, Dentalia, University of Turku, Finland

9.00-9.15 Welcome and practical issues

Minna Stolt, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services  
County of Satakunta  
Tarja Kvist, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science,  
University of Eastern Finland

9.15-10.15 Sampling and data collection in mixed methods research

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of  
Newfoundland, Canada

10.15-10.30 Coffee break

10.30-12.00 Analysis in mixed methods research: Understanding design specific integration  
procedures in mixed methods integration analyses

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of  
Newfoundland, Canada

12.00-12.45 Lunch

12.45-14.00 Analysis in mixed methods research: Developing joint displays to conduct integration  
analyses

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of  
Newfoundland, Canada

14.00-14.30 Coffee break

14.30-15.30 Advanced integration approaches and techniques in mixed methods

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of  
Newfoundland, Canada

15.30-16.30 Writing mixed methods studies

Ahtisham Younas, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Memorial University of  
Newfoundland, Canada  
Minna Stolt, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services  
County of Satakunta  
Tarja Kvist, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Eastern Finland

16.30-17.00 Instruction for seminar work and final discussion and closing the lectures

Minna Stolt, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services  
County of Satakunta  
Tarja Kvist, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Eastern Finland

**Seminar****23<sup>rd</sup> September 2026**

9.00-16.00

via Zoom

Teachers:

Minna Stolt, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Turku, Wellbeing Services  
County of Satakunta

Tarja Kvist, Professor, PhD, Department of Nursing Science, University of Eastern Finland

***Instructions:***

Each student will prepare a paper (7–10 pages) for the seminar where they explore and justify how mixed methods research is relevant to their own doctoral research study. Students are expected to describe the design, methodological issues and interpretation of mixed methods research and justify their choices with references. The papers are returned to Moodle platform.

Each student gives written feedback to two student colleagues. The written feedback is about 3-5 pages and should focus on theoretical and methodological issues and interpretation of mixed methods research. The feedback is returned to Moodle platform. Each student also receives teacher's feedback of their paper.

The seminar will be implemented via group presentations. Before the seminar the students are divided into small groups. In the groups, the students are asked to work actively before the seminar and prepare together a collective Power point presentation (instructions below). Time for this kind of work is approximately 20 hours and students are responsible to self-organize the working.

In the seminar the groups will present their Power point presentations (max. 20 minutes) followed by discussion (max. 25 minutes). The groups receive a predetermined individual viewpoint to mixed methods research. The idea is to mix theoretical knowledge with your ideas of mixed methods research. The presentation should consist central theoretical points and freely chosen examples (already existing or imaginary ones) of mixed methods research.

Students will present their ideas of mixed methods research as power point presentation and are prepared to lead the discussion and raise central issues to group discussion.

**Recommended Book:**

Creswell, J.W. & Plano Clark, V.L. (2018). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. SAGE, Los Angeles.

**Articles:**

- Halcomb E. J. (2019). Mixed methods research: The issues beyond combining methods. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 75(3), 499–501. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.13877>
- Irvine, F. E., Clark, M. T., Efstathiou, N., Herber, O. R., Howroyd, F., Gratrix, L., Sammut, D., Trumm, A., Hanssen, T. A., Taylor, J., & Bradbury-Jones, C. (2020). The state of mixed methods research in nursing: A focused mapping review and synthesis. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 76(11), 2798–2809. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.14479>
- McKenna, L., Copnell, B., & Smith, G. (2021). Getting the methods right: Challenges and appropriateness of mixed methods research in health-related doctoral studies. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 30(3-4), 581–587. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15534>
- Shorten, A., & Smith, J. (2017). Mixed methods research: expanding the evidence base. *Evidence-Based Nursing*, 20(3), 74–75. <https://doi.org/10.1136/eb-2017-102699>
- Younas, A., Pedersen, M., & Tayaben, J. L. (2019). Review of mixed-methods research in nursing. *Nursing Research*, 68(6), 464–472. <https://doi.org/10.1097/NNR.0000000000000372>
- Anguera, M. T., Blanco-Villaseñor, A., Losada, J. L., Sánchez-Algarra, P., & Onwuegbuzie, A. J. (2018). Revisiting the difference between mixed methods and multimethods: Is it all in the name? *Quality & Quantity*, 52, 2757–2770. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11135-018-0700-2>
- Åkerblad, L., Seppänen-Järvelä, R., & Haapakoski, K. (2021). Integrative strategies in mixed methods research. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 15(2), 152–170. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689820957125>
- Fàbregues, S., & Molina-Azorín, J. F. (2017). Addressing quality in mixed methods research: A review and recommendations for a future agenda. *Quality & Quantity*, 51, 2847–2863. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11135-016-0449-4>
- Guetterman, T. C., Fàbregues, S., & Sakakibara, R. (2021). Visuals in joint displays to represent integration in mixed methods research: A methodological review. *Methods in Psychology*, 5, 100080. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.metip.2021.100080>
- Guetterman, T. C., Fetters, M. D., & Creswell, J. W. (2015). Integrating quantitative and qualitative results in health science mixed methods research through joint displays. *The Annals of Family Medicine*, 13(6), 554–561. <https://doi.org/10.1370/afm.1865>
- Ghiara, V. (2020). Disambiguating the role of paradigms in mixed methods research. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 14(1), 11–25. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689818819928>
- Hong, Q. N., Fàbregues, S., Bartlett, G., Boardman, F., Cargo, M., Dagenais, P., ... & Pluye, P. (2018). The Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool (MMAT) version 2018 for information professionals and researchers. *Education for information*, 34(4), 285–291.
- Johnson, R. B. (2017). Dialectical pluralism: A metaparadigm whose time has come. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 11(2), 156–173. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689815607692>
- Mertens, D. M. (2007). Transformative paradigm: Mixed methods and social justice. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 1(3), 212–225. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689807302811>
- Onwuegbuzie, A. J., & Johnson, R. B. (2006). The validity issue in mixed research. *Research in the Schools*, 13, 48–63.
- Onwuegbuzie, A. J., & Johnson, R. B. (Eds.). (2021). *The routledge reviewer's guide to mixed methods analysis*. Routledge

- Onwuegbuzie, A. J., Johnson, R. B., & Collins, K. M. (2011b). Assessing legitimation in mixed research: A new framework. *Quality & Quantity*, 45(6), 1253–1271. <https://doi.org/10.1007/S11135-009-9289-9>
- Perez, A., Howell Smith, M. C., Babchuk, W. A., & Lynch-O'Brien, L. I. (2023). Advancing quality standards in mixed methods research: Extending the legitimation typology. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 17(1), 29-50. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15586898221093872>
- Shannon-Baker, P. (2016). Making paradigms meaningful in mixed methods research. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 10(4), 319-334. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689815575861>
- Schoonenboom, J., & Johnson, R. B. (2017). How to construct a mixed methods research design. *Kolner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie*, 69(Suppl 2), 107–131. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11577-017-0454-1>
- Younas, A., & Durante, A. (2023). Decision tree for identifying pertinent integration procedures and joint displays in mixed methods research. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 79(7), 2754–2769. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.15536>
- Younas, A., & Durante, A. (2023). The Logics of and Strategies to Enhance Generalization of Mixed Methods Research Findings. *Methodology*, 19(2), 170-191. <https://doi.org/10.5964/meth.10863>
- Younas, A., Durante, A., & Fàbregues, S. (2023). Understanding the nature of and identifying and formulating “research problems” in mixed methods research. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 15586898231191441. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15586898231191441>
- Younas, A., Fàbregues, S., & Creswell, J. W. (2023). Generating metainferences in mixed methods research: A worked example in convergent mixed methods designs. *Methodological Innovations*, 16(3), 276-291. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20597991231188121>
- Younas, A., Parveen Rasheed, S., & Zeb, H. (2020). Using legitimation criteria to establish rigour in sequential mixed-methods research. *Nurse Researcher*, 28(3), 44–51. <https://doi.org/10.7748/nr.2020.e1727>
- Younas, A., Pedersen, M., & Durante, A. (2020). Characteristics of joint displays illustrating data integration in mixed-methods nursing studies. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 76(2), 676-686. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.14264>
- Younas, A., Pedersen, M., & Inayat, S. (2023). Practical strategies to identify and address discordant findings in mixed methods research. *Research Methods in Medicine & Health Sciences*, 4(1), 24-33. <https://doi.org/10.1177/26320843221122342>
- Younas, A., Pedersen, M., & Tayaben, J. L. (2022). Placing mixed methods research within hierarchies of evidence in health sciences. *International Journal of Multiple Research Approaches*, 14(1), 34-49. <https://doi.org/10.29034/ijmra.v14n1a3>
- Younas, A., & Sundus, A. (2022). Tripartite analysis: A data analysis technique for convergent mixed-methods designs. *Nursing Research*, 71(4), 313–321. <https://doi.org/10.1097/NNR.0000000000000584>

### Additional Texts

Fetters, M. D. (2019). *The mixed methods research workbook: Activities for designing, implementing, and publishing projects*. Sage.

Bazeley, P. (2018). *Integrating analyses in mixed methods research*. Sage.