Poli 210 Chapter 2 Notes

* Inductive: forming conclusions from empirical evidence
* Qualatative more narrow and difficult to measure (not law-like)
* Both quantitative and qualitative research are hard to conduct
* Methods for empirical research
  + Quantitative: do studies of many cases (ex: a single unit)
  + Qualitative: more about the depth of the case (fewer cases and less structure)
  + Both are mostly used together (helpful tool box)
  + Quantitative more like measuring a difference or similarity in a degree
* **Epis diff**
* Intent
  + Quantitative: verify or disprove something (degree)
  + Qualitative: understand or address a problem
* Ultimate Objective
  + Quan: large-n approach to make generalizations (N= number of cases studied)
  + Qua: small-n approach and more specific observations
* Approach
  + Quan: more hard numbers (turn nature into numbers)
  + Qua: method blends with nature
* Researcher
  + Quan: not involved
  + Qua: an instrument to the method (not bad bias)
* Theory dev.
  + Quan: test existing theories (find patterns and variables) (deductive)
  + Qua: Themes and explanations emerge (inductive)
* **Method**
* Data format: (Quan: more numbers, Qua: more words and symbols)
* Data reduction
  + Grouping certain responses to themes or schools of thought (Qua)
  + Filtered through certain variables already pre-determined (Quan)
* Subatance of data
  + Cold hard truth (Quan)
  + More subjective (qua)
* Data recording
  + Questionnaire type (Quan)
  + Open-ended questions with full sentences (qua)
* Data processing
  + More based on mathematical procedures (Quan)
  + More on concepts (Teacher needs to cover this!!!!)
* Presentation
  + More numbers and graphs
  + More words and pictures
* Standards of evidence
  + Probability to measure boundaries (margin of error?)
  + How plausible is for this to happen? (Qua)
* Quan. More general while Qua. Is more specific and infused with values
* **trustworthiness**
* Authenticity
  + Measurement validity (quan)
  + Credibility (is it believable the way the data is demonstrated)
* Portability
  + The models and variables can be shifted to other contexts (external validity) (Quan)
  + Up to reader or new investigator to determine if it can be transferred into their context (burden is on them)
* Precision
  + Data can be replicated if the model is followed again by someone else (quan)
  + Data gathered is consistent throughout the research (If the same conditions were in place and someone were to do it again)
* Impartiality
  + Next to zero biases present in quan (objective)
  + Can another person confirm my findings? (confirmability)
* **Helping Trust**
* Triangulation
  + Use several techniques for research (3 or more or less) for a clearer view of the situation
  + Can be everything in one finding (mixed techniques)
  + Can even mean combining quan and qua together
* Detailed findings
  + Fat and strong descriptions of findings
  + Neatly laid out graphs with some colour
* Rely on some established methods to prevent “amateur mistakes”
  + Looking at past interviews or surveys
* Release the methods and decisions made during the process so people can actually study the authenticity of your study
* Discrepant evidence
  + Compared your hypothesis to others and evaluate their effectiveness
  + Probability and plausibility
  + Leave the reader with other possibilities present to him or her
* Make the data available for the public to see
* Member checks to see if some representations are inauthentic (may not be possible bc author needs to be consulted—there could be too many of them)
* Re-read and keep in contact with the raw data
* Collaboration among many researchers can help create debate and provide more perspectives (presenting a clearer picture in a sense)
* State your own biases and attempt to minimize them
* Have other peers review it