

## Choosing and Using Qualitative Software

Wednesday, April 15, 2009, in CHS 413, the Gerontology Resource Room

Open seminar presented at two times: from 10:30-11:50 and 2:00-3:20. Individual or small group consultations by arrangement. Please register online at the link from

Featuring Raymond Maietta, Ph.D., of ResearchTalk, the session is co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology and the Center for Faculty Excellence.

This session is based on the premise that the use of qualitative software does not threaten the methodological integrity of qualitative researchers' work. Highlighting both innovative and classic features of ATLAS.ti and MAXqda we demonstrate how off-screen manual methods used to analyze qualitative data can be employed and enhanced with qualitative software. This discussion invites discussion and debate about the relative strengths and weaknesses of each program.

Areas of focus include:

- ◆ Variety of data formats available for use within qualitative software
- ◆ Doing an inventory of your qualitative data
- ◆ Episode Summaries and Profiles
- ◆ Memo writing as stand alone method
- ◆ Codebook and theme evolution
- ◆ Strategies for data review and analysis
- ◆ Output and visual diagramming tools

This session is run as an interactive seminar. Participants are invited to ask questions, but note that there is not a hands-on component to this session. Individual or small group consultations are scheduled at other times during the day. Please indicate ALL of the times you would be available, so we can create the smallest feasible groups. Those who request consultations will complete a very brief worksheet in advance. This can be done on the registration form or as a separate document sent to [raymaietta@gmail.com](mailto:raymaietta@gmail.com). They are:

1. Please provide a brief (2-3 sentences maximum) summary of your goals for a consultation session with Ray or provide an organizing question for the session.
2. Please provide a 2-3 sentence summary of the main qualitative research project you will like to discuss. Please do not attach extended proposals, just briefly summarize your project here.
3. What type of qualitative data do or will you have and how much data will you have (for example, I collected 42 face-to-face interviews that each lasted 75 minutes).

10:30-11:50	Seminar
12-12:30	Consultation
12:30-1	Consultation
1-2	Lunch break for Ray
2:00-3:20	Seminar

3:30-4:00      Consultation  
4:00-4:30      Consultation

## **Ray Maietta**

Dr. Raymond C. Maietta is president of ResearchTalk Inc., a qualitative research consulting company based in Bohemia, New York and Cary, North Carolina. A Ph.D. sociologist from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Ray's interests in the art of qualitative research methods motivated him to start ResearchTalk in 1996. ResearchTalk Inc. provides advice on all phases of qualitative analysis to university, government, not-for-profit and corporate researchers.

More than 14 years of consultation with qualitative researchers informs the recent publications and a current methods book Dr. Maietta is writing:

- *Sort and Sift, Think and Shift: A Multidimensional Approach to Qualitative Analysis* (Guilford Press) will be completed in 2009.
- "Systematic Procedures of Inquiry and Computer Data Analysis Software for Qualitative Research" (co-authored with John Creswell, *Handbook of Research Design and Social Measurement*, Sage 2002)
- "State of the Art: Integrating Software with Qualitative Analysis" (in Leslie Curry, Renee Shield and Terrie Wetle, (Eds.) *Applying Qualitative and Mixed Methods in Aging and Public Health Research*. Washington, DC: American Public Health Association and the Gerontological Society of America 2006).
- "The Use of Photography as a Qualitative Research Method" (in Judith Tanur (Ed.) *Visualizing Social Science*. Social Science Research Council, New York, NY 2008)
- "Qualitative Software" (in Lisa Given (ed.) *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods*. SAGE Publications, Thousand Oaks, CA 2008)
- "Integrating Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis with MAXQDA" (in *Journal of Mixed Methods*, April 2008. SAGE Publications, Thousand Oaks, CA 2008)

Ray's work invites interactions with researchers from a range of disciplinary backgrounds. He is an active participant at conferences around the country including invited presentations at *American Evaluation Association*, *American Anthropological Association*, and *American Sociological Association*.