

# MIXED METHODS RESEARCH

## A SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE

Mixed methods research refers to contexts in which a researcher collects, analyzes, and integrates both quantitative and qualitative data within a single study. This two-day course will introduce participants to various stages of the research process associated with mixed methods approach. The format of this course is interactive, combining lectures, in-class activities, and discussion of case studies.



**A/P MU ZHENG**  
NUS ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



### Course Outline

1. Course introduction
2. Selection of a research approach
3. Overview: Research designs (Quantitative, Qualitative)
4. What is mixed methods approach?
5. Rationales for choosing mixed methods
6. Strengths and challenges of mixed methods approach
7. What to consider when choosing mixed methods design?
8. Basic mixed methods designs: Convergent parallel, Explanatory sequential, Exploratory sequential designs
9. Classroom activities include lectures, quizzes, discussion of case studies, group and individual presentations.



### Who Should Attend?

Participants will find this short course useful if they:

- Consider combining quantitative and qualitative data in their future research and would like to find out whether mixed methods would be a suitable approach;
- Plan to use mixed methods in their research and would like to get some input on how to do this.



### Prerequisites

In addition to basic knowledge about the quantitative and qualitative social science research, it is recommended that participants have a basic knowledge of software packages for quantitative analysis (e.g., SPSS) and qualitative analysis (e.g., Nvivo).

### ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Mu Zheng is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, NUS and the Deputy Director of the Centre for Family and Population Research at NUS. Her general research interests include trends, social determinants, and consequences of marriage and family behaviors, with a special focus on how marriage and family have served as major inequality-generating mechanisms.

Her ongoing research projects examine how interactions between sociodemographic and ideational contexts shape individuals' time use patterns, family experiences, and well-being in China and Singapore. She uses methods of statistical analysis, qualitative interviews, and a mixed-method approach combining population-level survey data with fieldwork and interviews.



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