

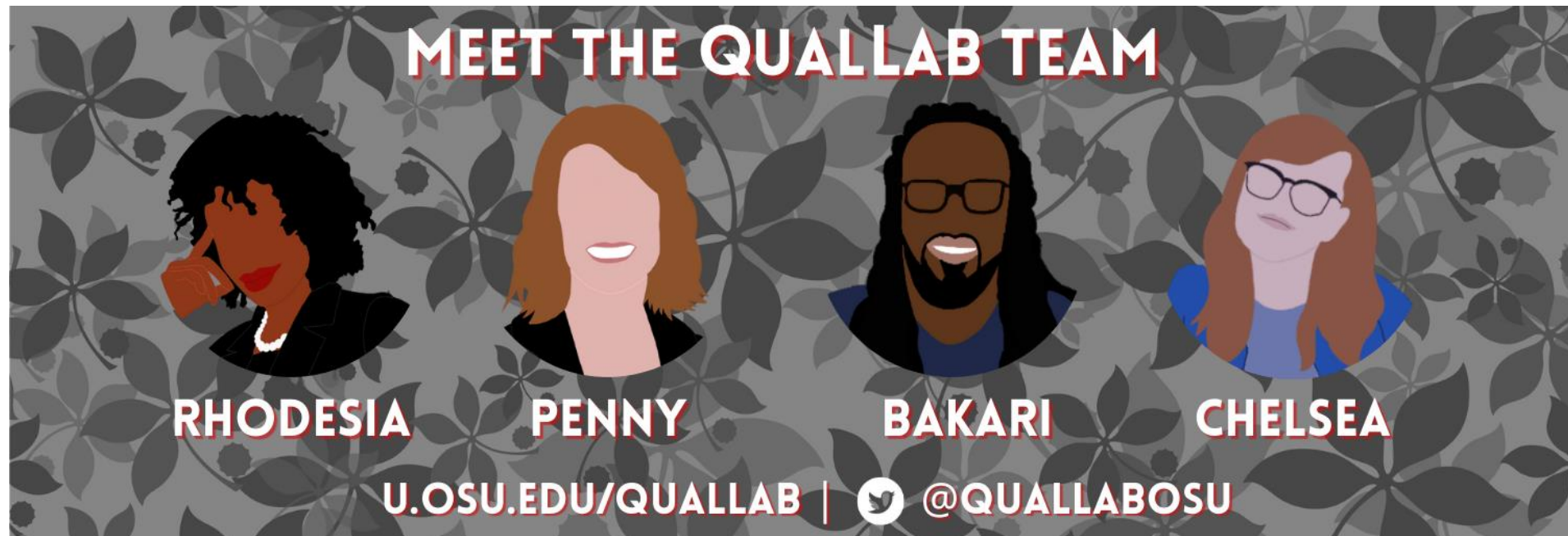


THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION AND HUMAN ECOLOGY

QualLab

Introduction to Narrative Inquiry



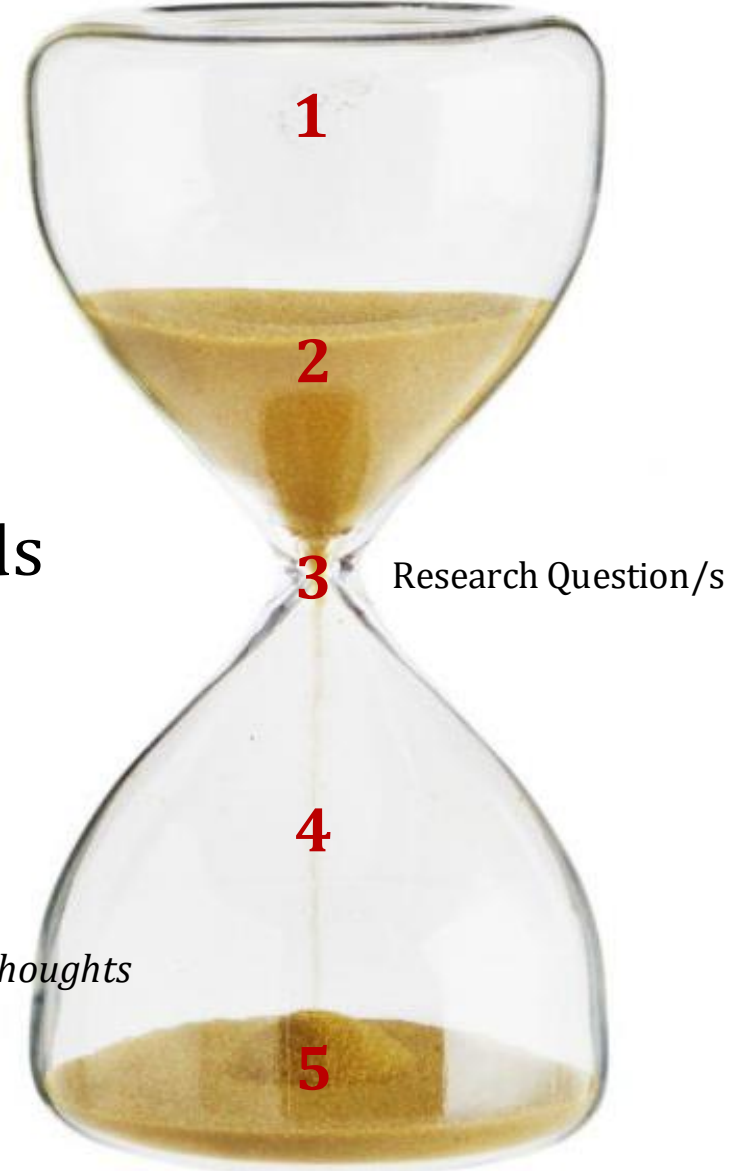
Authored by Chelsea Gilbert, Bakari Lumumba & Penny A. Pasque (2021)

Note: This resource guide offers very basic information for scholars new to Narrative Inquiry. Please see the resources listed for more depth.

5 Parts of A Research Study

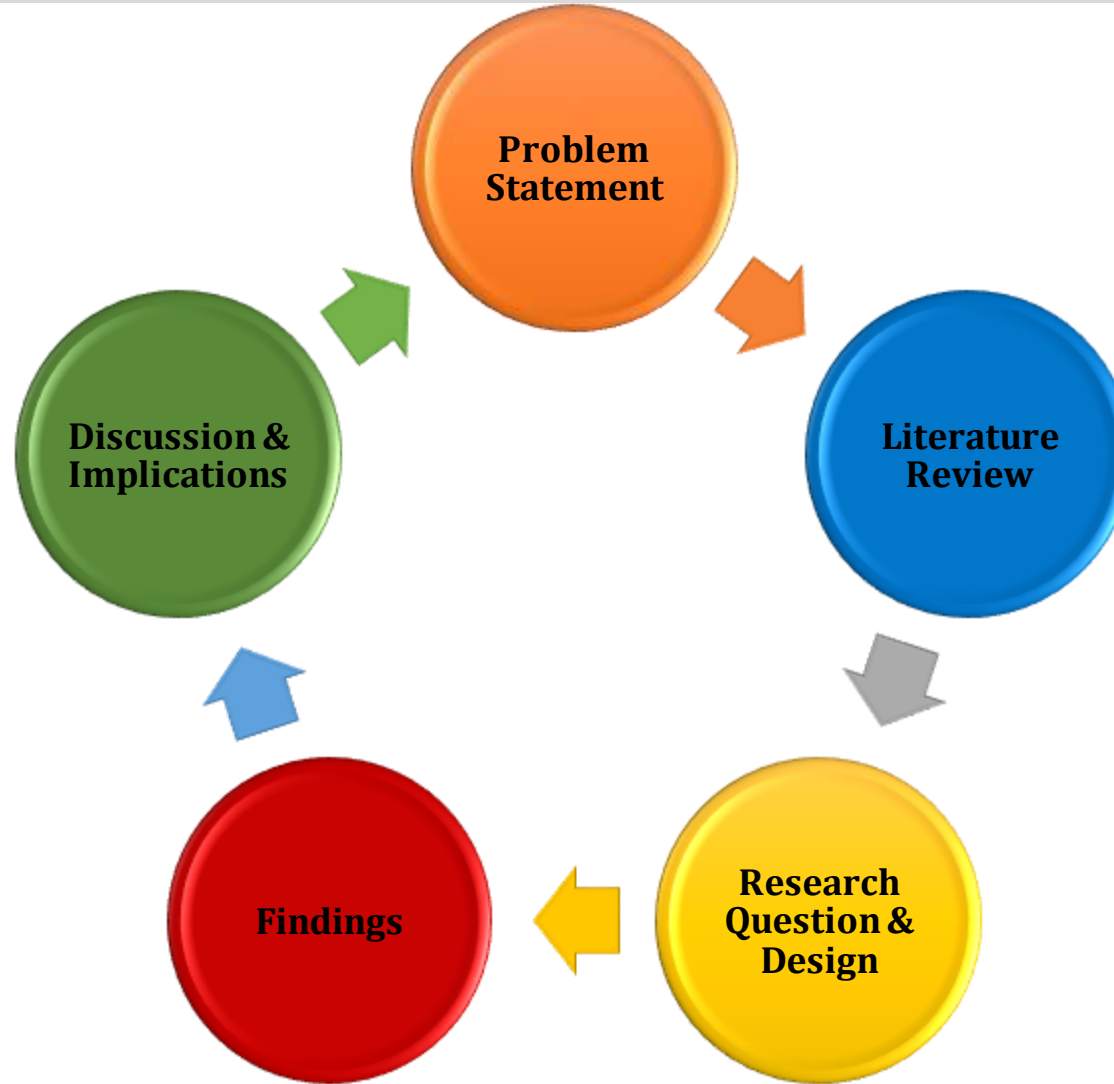
John Creswell

- 1 – Problem Statement / The “So What”
- 2 – Review of Literature, etc.
- 3 – Research Question, Methodology & Methods
- 4 – Findings *(with evidence)*
- 5 – Discussion, Implications, & Conclusion *(your thoughts grounded in findings & furthering existing literature here)*

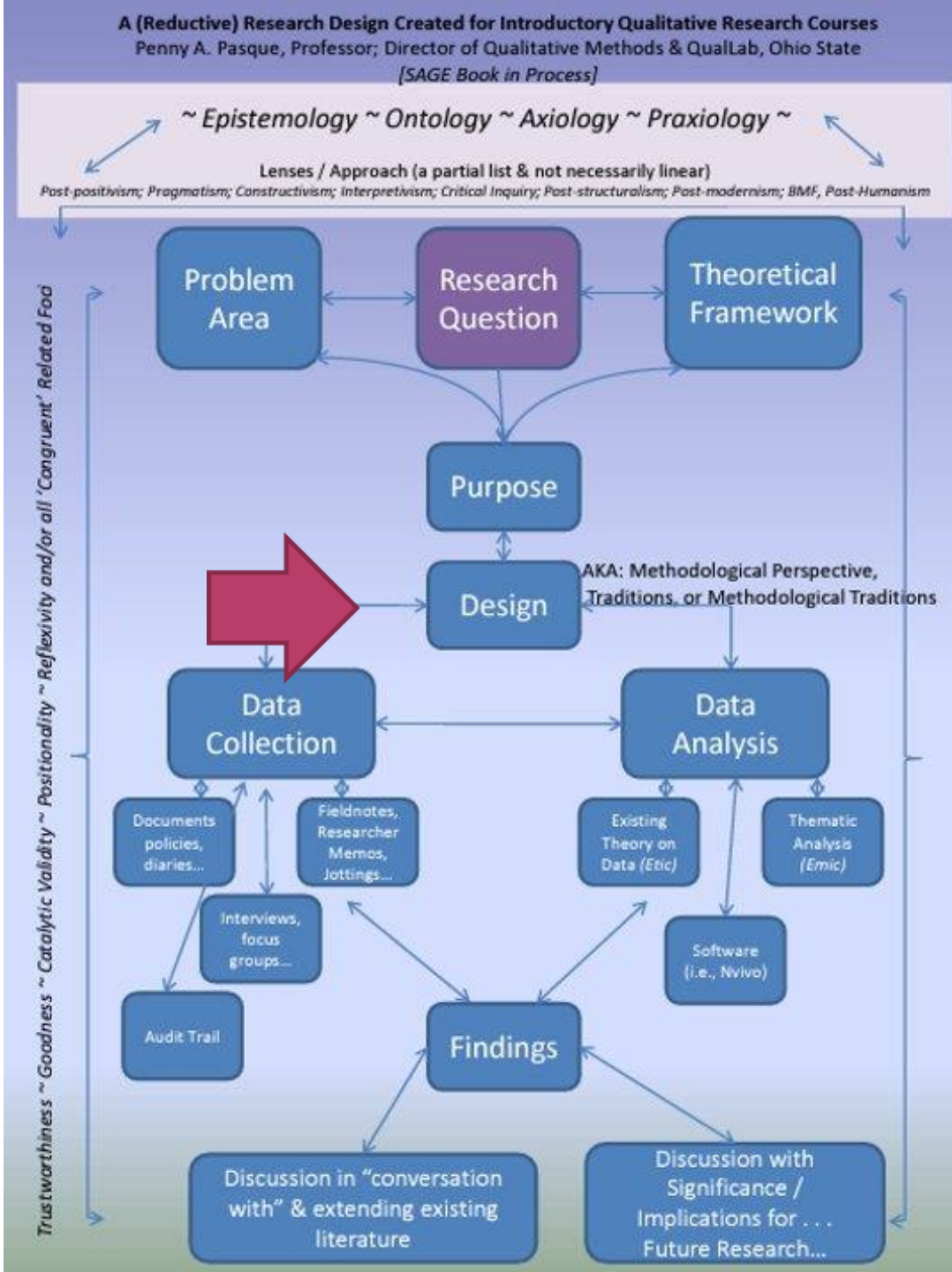


The Basics: Qualitative Inquiry is Iterative

Pasque, Carducci, Kuntz & Gildersleeve (2012)



Researcher Decision Points (AKA "Cheat Sheet")



Today: Narrative Inquiry

Pasque, P. A. (2021).
 Figure: Qualitative Research Design
 The Ohio State University



Narrative Inquiry

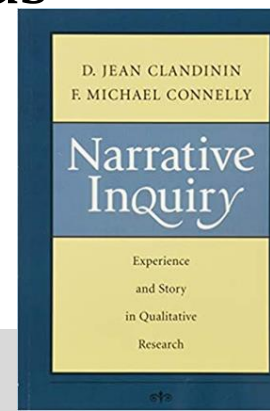
Narrative inquiry as a methodological approach relies on “life experiences as narrative by those who live them, or “the study of stories or narratives or descriptions of a series of events”
(Jones, Torres & Arminio, 2014, p. 82).

Your Research Question Dictates the Research Design, Methodological Approach, and Congruent Methods



Narrative Inquiry

- Originated in an interpretivist (or constructivist) paradigm by Clandinin & Connelly (2000).
- Narrative Inquiry focuses on the relationship between people's life stories and the quality of their life experiences. These researchers usually emphasize *what* people's stories are about-plot, characters, and sometime the structure or sequencing of their content. (Chase, 2011)
- Narrative *as* lived experience, as social action. The researchers are as interested in *how* people narrate their experiences, as in what their stories are about. (Chase, 2011)





Narrative Inquiry

- Focuses on the relationship between people's narrative practices and their local narrative environments....These researchers are more interested in understanding *narrative reality* in any local context - what does and doesn't get said, about what, why, how, and to whom-than they are in understanding individuals' stories *per se*.

Chase (2011), p. 421-423

Data Collection

Collect in a STORIED way that will help you answer your RQ & not create self-fulfilling prophecy

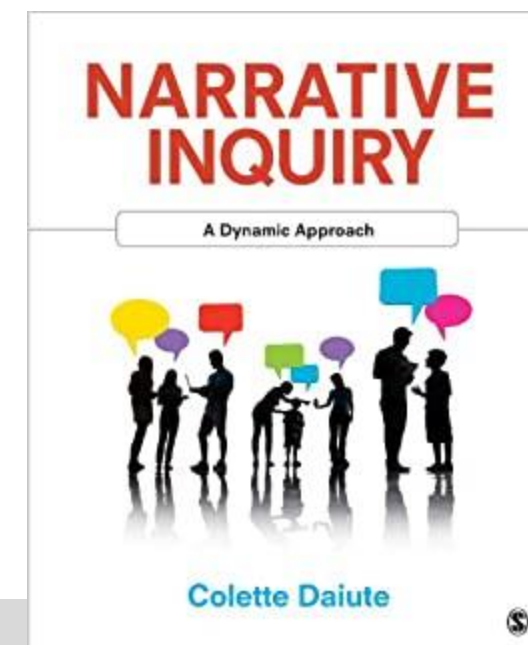
- Narrative Interviews
- Semi-Structured Interviews
- Informal, Conversational Interviews
- Walking Interviews
- CRiT Walking
- Standardized, Open-Ended Interviews
- Topical Interviews
- Life History Interviews
- In-Depth Interviews
- Collect Artifacts
- Sister Circles
- Arts Based Interviews
- Photovoice / Photo Elicitation
- Draw a Picture
- Make a Meal Together
- And many more...



A Few Types of Narrative Analysis by Dauite (2014)

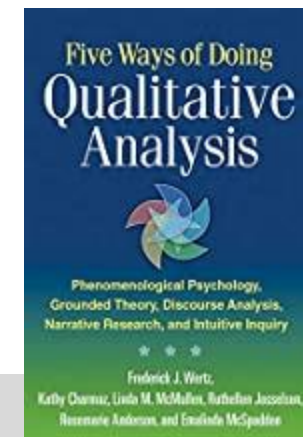
Choose the one (or more) that will help you best answer your research questions. Dauite describes HOW to do each in her book.

- **Values Analysis**
- **Plot Analysis**
- **Significance Analysis**
- **Character Mapping & Time Analysis**
- **Outcomes** (observations & meanings, identifying patterns, moving from observations to findings)



Another Approach to Narrative Analysis:

NA “involves gaining an overall sense of meaning and then examining the parts in relation to it—which involves understanding of the whole until we arrive at a holistic understanding that best encompasses the meanings of the parts”
(Josselson, 2011)





Narrative Analysis by Josselson (2011)

Four Activities:

1. An overall reading of each interview to begin to ascertain general themes and then return to specific parts of each transcript to develop meaning while also keeping an eye on how the meaning of each part contributes to an understanding of the whole.
2. Multiple readings of each transcript to track different narratives at play within each and how these relate to one another.
3. With multiple readings, a story that captures both the whole and the patterns in the parts begins to emerge.
4. Dialogue the themes with the theoretical literature to deepen the researcher's understandings of the meanings and emerging stories.



Researcher as Narrator

- The researcher in Narrative Inquiry is also “re-stories” narratives through analysis and interpretation.
- **Most understand “what is storyworthy” (Chase, 2005).**
- This involves developing interview questions that evoke stories from participants and then to tell the story in such a way that interprets and conveys the content and the meaning of the stories in a more holistic way (Chase, 2005; Josselson, 2011).
- **Researchers must make decisions about their voices and how to represent the voices of their participants (Chase, 2005). This done using three voices: the authoritative voice, the support voice, and the interactive voice.**



Researcher as Narrator

- **The authoritative voice:** connects and separates the researcher's and participants' voices by providing long excerpts from participants' stories and interspersing the researcher throughout.
- **The supportive voice:** foregrounds the participants' voices, to bring the narrator's story to the public and to get the narrator's story heard. Researchers do not usually dwell on how they engaged in these interpretive processes.
- **The interactive voice:** displays the complex interaction - the intersubjectivity - between researchers' and narrators' voices. These researchers examine *their* voices - their subject positions, social locations, interpretations, and personal experiences - through the refracted medium of narrators' voices.

(Chase, 2005)



Endarkened Narrative Inquiry

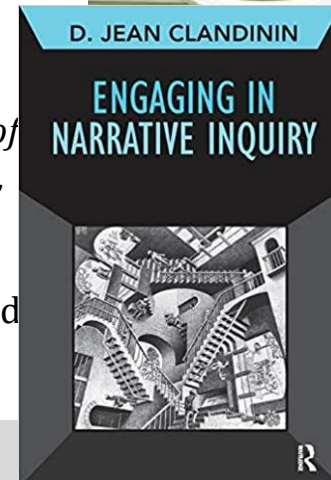
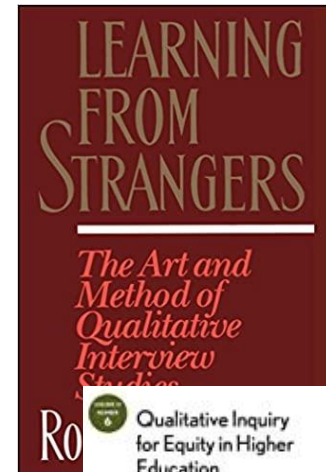
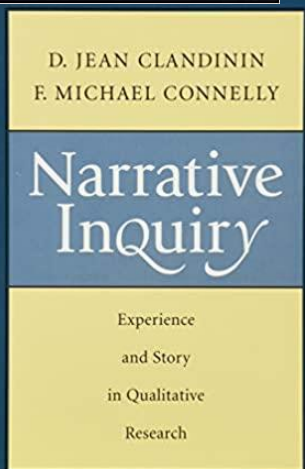
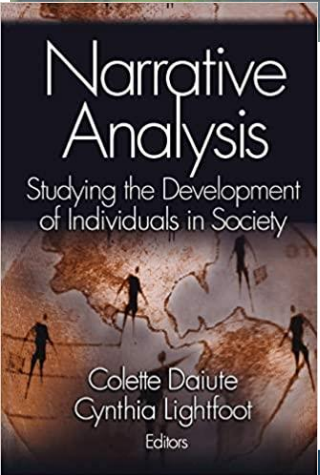
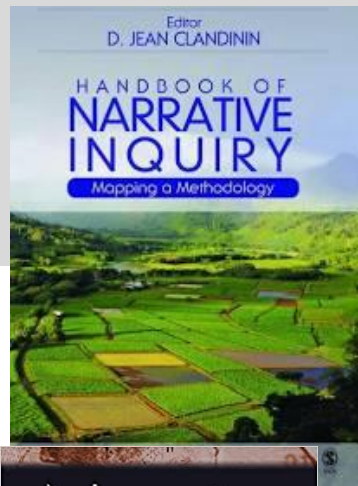
A framework informed by Black feminist thought, womanism, endarkened feminist epistemology, and narrative inquiry in qualitative research.

See the article in our library:

McClish-Boyd & Bhattacharya (2021). Endarkened narrative inquiry: a methodological framework constructed through improvisation. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*. 34(6). 534–548. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09518398.2021.1871981>

Resources: Narrative Inquiry

- Baughan, P. (2017). *The use of narrative inquiry as an approach for exploring student accounts about their own learning*. SAGE Research Methods Cases.
- Caine, V., Estefan, A., & Clandinin, D. J. (2019). *Narrative Inquiry*. In P. Atkinson, S. Delamont, A. Cernat, J.W. Sakshaug, & R.A. Williams (Eds.), *SAGE Research Methods Foundations*. SAGE.
- Chase, S.E. (2011). Narrative Inquiry: Still a Field in the Making. In N.K. Denzin & Y.S. Lincoln (Eds.), *The SAGE handbook of qualitative research (4th ed.; pp. 415-420)*. SAGE.
- Clandinin, D.J., (2013). *Engaging in narrative inquiry*. Left Coast Press, Inc. [A GREAT BOOK TO START WITH!]
- Clandinin & Connelly (2000). *Narrative Inquiry: Experience and Story in Qualitative Research*. SAGE.
- Corbin, J., & Strauss, A. (2008). *Basics of qualitative research (3rd ed.)* Los Angeles, CA: Sage.
- Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Qualitative inquiry & research design: Choosing among five approaches (3rd ed.)*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage.
- Daiute, C. (2014). *Narrative Inquiry: A Dynamic Approach*. SAGE. [ANOTHER GOOD ONE TO START WITH!]
- Daiute, C., & Lightfoot, C.G., (Eds.). (2004). *Narrative analysis: studying the development of individuals in society*. Sage. [EACH CHAPTER FOCUSES ON A DIFFERENT WAY TO ANALYZE USING NI; A GREAT RESOURCE.]
- Dwyer, R. (2014). *Narrative inquiry in practice: An investigation of music teachers' values and beliefs*. SAGE Research Methods Cases.
- Fontana, A. & Prokos, A. H. (2007). *The interview: From formal to postmodern*. New York, NY: Taylor & Francis.
- Josselson, R. (2011). Narrative research: Constructing, deconstructing, and reconstructing story. In *Five ways of doing qualitative analysis: Phenomenological psychology, grounded theory, discourse analysis, narrative inquiry, and intuitive inquiry* (pp. 224-242). The Guilford Press.
- Kim, J. (2016). *Understanding narrative inquiry*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.
- McClish-Boyd & Bhattacharya (2021). Endarkened narrative inquiry: a methodological framework constructed through improvisation. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*. 34(6). 534–548.





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