

Information to include in a qualitative methods section

Source: Janice D. Aurini, Melanie Heath and Stephanie Howells, *The How To of Qualitative Research: Strategies for Executing High Quality Projects*, 4th ed. (Los Angeles, CA: SAGE, 2016), pp. 209. Bold added.

- How was the instrument distributed to respondents?
- What did the instrument include? (How many questions? What were the topics?)
- How were respondents located and selected?
- How were respondents given informed consent?
- Why was a particular location selected for a case study or ethnography?
- How were the data collected?
- Was audio or video recording used?
- Where did the interviews take place?
- How long were the interviews? (Report shortest, longest and average of all interview lengths.)
- Were interviews transcribed?
- Were transcriptions verbatim, or were only certain sections transcribed?
- How were other forms of data treated?
- What was your position in the field?
- Why were these particular methods chosen?
- What is the unit of analysis (individual respondent, focus group, case, etc.)?
- How was sampling conducted?
- What type of data were collected?