

Researching Transculturally: Methodological Issues and Challenges

Collection Editor: Mabel Victoria

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Description:

Researchers often work in culturally and linguistically challenging contexts. They interact with research participants whose native language and sociocultural backgrounds are different to their own. They also conduct fieldwork in settings that are unfamiliar to them—constantly having to make decisions as minute as what to wear, how to greet people in a culturally appropriate manner, or whether taking photographs of place and people is taboo. There are a number of other challenges, such as differing roles and expectations, conflicting cultural values and world views, power relations, and culturally sensitive ethical practices.

There is very little practical guidance in the literature that can help qualitative researchers navigate the terrain of researching across cultures. This volume will present contributions from different researchers that provide the reader with an idea of the challenges and issues they faced while researching transculturally. Contributions will provide a behind-the-scenes perspective or narrative accounts that are not often written about as part of journal articles or monographs.

What Should the Submitted Chapters Consider?

The focus of any contribution should be your (**qualitative**) methodology with its associated issues and challenges. While brief information about your empirical study is helpful, it should only be used for contextual background and not as the centrepiece of the chapter. Topics you might wish to consider are:

- Power relations between the researcher and participants;
- Communication and language issues;
- Insider-outsider perspectives;
- Ethical issues surrounding participant access and getting informed consent;
- Dealing with culturally sensitive topics and practices;
- Recruiting participants from minority groups—issues of incentives, compensation, and reciprocity;
- Moral and ethical dilemmas—when you observe practices in the field with which you do not agree;
- Rapport-building and relationship management across cultures;
- Indigenous methodologies;
- The researcher and participants' intersectional differences (race, ethnicity, language, gender, etc.), and their effects in the research process.



About the Editor:

Mabel Victoria is a border-crosser, and holds an MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, a Master's in Educational Research, and a PhD in Intercultural Communication. She has conducted linguistic-ethnographic research in six different countries, and has published widely in the areas of English language teaching, humour, intercultural communication, linguistic politeness in business and in education, and latrinalia.

Submission Requirements:

All chapters (7,000 words including references) submitted should conform to the grammar and formatting guidelines provided by Cambridge Scholars Publishing, which can be viewed here: <https://www.cambridgescholars.com/pages/forms-guidelines>.

Unless agreed with the Editor prior to submission, referencing should be in Chicago style.

Any work submitted for publication should be free of copyright restrictions, and a statement should be submitted in support of this.

Contributions should be scholarly based, rather than anecdotal or unverifiable.

Contributions must be wholly in English, excluding footnotes, appendices, and short extracts for translation.

While we will perform pre-press evaluations on the collection, we do not provide full copyediting services, so we ask that works are submitted to us in their final, 'ready-to-go' form.

How to Submit?

You should submit to the Editor a completed 300-word proposal form in English, along with a short author biography. This submission should be made directly to the Editor's email address at the top of this page.

If you have any questions about the collection, prior to your submission, please contact the Editor.

Timeline:

Abstract of proposed chapter (300 words): 30th June 2021

Notification of acceptance: 15th July 2021

Submission of full chapter (6,000 to 7,000 words, including References): 31st December 2021



The Editor will review these personally to consider their inclusion in the work. Should the Editor approve the chapters, you will then be asked to complete an agreement for the publication of these chapters. **It is essential that this agreement is completed in order for your work to be printed.**

Once the Editor has approved the chapter, and has received your contributor agreement, these will then be sent to Cambridge Scholars as a complete collection for pre-press reviews and publication. **As such, it is essential that the work you submit to the Editor is finalised and has been thoroughly proofread.**

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