

Emerging Methodologists Workshop: Qualitative and Multi-Method Explanatory Research Call for Proposals

Proposal Due Date: February 1, 2024

Workshop Date: September 4, 2024

Background and Motivation

The community of scholars who engage in qualitative and multi-method explanatory research is large and diverse. By contrast, the group of scholars who develop, write on, and teach these research methods – i.e., who *guide* the endeavors of researchers who carry out such work – is far smaller and more homogeneous. One cause of this disparity is that junior scholars, particularly those from under-represented groups, are not encouraged and actively mentored to become qualitative methodologists. The “Emerging Methodologists Workshop for Qualitative and Multi-Method Explanatory Research” (EMW) seeks to address that gap by encouraging advanced graduate students, post-docs, and junior faculty who are from under-represented groups, and who are based at U.S. institutions, to develop, publish on, and teach qualitative and multi-method research.

The EMW takes place annually on the day before the start of the American Political Science Association (APSA) meeting. The workshop runs as an invitation-only day-long pre-conference short course sponsored by the Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (QMMR) section of APSA. At each workshop, six scholars present and receive feedback on a paper they wrote and circulated in advance. Presenters receive intensive support: senior faculty mentors attend the workshop and work with presenters before and afterwards, helping them to develop and move their work toward peer-reviewed publication. We introduce presenters into existing networks, foster new networks, and work to build an inclusive community.

The next EMW takes place on **Wednesday, September 4, 2024**, in Philadelphia, PA. The EMW is supported by generous funding from the National Science Foundation. More information can be found on the **EMW’s website** (<http://sigla.georgetown.domains/emworkshop/>).

Eligibility and Paper Requirements

Eligibility: **Advanced doctoral students** in political science, and **recent PhDs (2017 or later)** in political science serving as postdocs, junior faculty, or in other positions in academia whose **home institution is in the U.S.** are welcome to submit proposals.

Paper requirements:

- Mainly or completely empirical work that uses a particular qualitative method or is multi-method in nature **is not eligible**.
- Papers must **fully focus on developing, critiquing, challenging, or enhancing a method** for collecting, generating, or analyzing qualitative data, or a technique for multi-method research.
 - Work that focuses on methodological development that includes brief empirical examples is encouraged.

Proposal Process

To be considered for the 2024 EMW, please email the following as one continuous PDF to emw.qmer@gmail.com by **February 1, 2024**. Please title the file “LASTNAME.pdf”

- Cover letter
 - Name, department, position (e.g., xth year graduate student, postdoc, assistant professor)
 - Brief description of why you wish to participate in the EMW
 - Name and contact information of two faculty members or colleagues who could serve as references
- Abstract for the paper you propose to present at the workshop (150 words)
- Essay #1 (300 words): discuss your broad interests in, and use of, qualitative methods and multi-method research and how you became interested in those methods
- Essay #2 (300 words): describe how your participation and research will contribute to the diversity of the EMW and the broader QMMR community
- CV

Selection and Support

The EMW steering committee will review all eligible proposals and select for presentation at the EMW six papers that contribute to the development of qualitative and multi-method research methodology. Selection will focus on the intellectual and methodological promise of proposals, and the contributions that applicants and their proposed work make to the diversity of the QMMR community. All applicants will be notified of the status of their proposal by March 1, 2024.

Each workshop presenter will work with a “methods mentor” – a senior scholar in the QMMR community with expertise in the area of their proposed paper – as they develop their papers, circulating well-developed versions in advance of the workshop. The workshop covers round-trip airfare, two nights at a conference hotel, meals and refreshments during the workshop, and the \$25 short course fee for each paper presenter.

Participants will continue to revise their papers after the workshop, with the continued support of their mentors and the broader EMW community, before submitting them to a peer-reviewed journal. Those selected to present at the 2024 EMW will also be invited to attend and present at the annual EMW virtual mini-conference, to be held each March starting in 2024, and to attend (at their own expense) future EMWs.

This initiative seeks to foster a diverse and vibrant community of emerging methodologists in the qualitative and multi-method tradition, with connections within and across EMW cohorts. Our hope is that participants continue to publish and teach in the field of qualitative methodology, and that they seek and find a home in the QMMR community as their careers advance.

Contact: Please send all inquiries to emw.qmer@gmail.com.