

Qualitative Research Methods

Standalone Course with Graduate Credits

August 03-November 23, 2026, |2:00 pm to 5:00 pm PST | Every Monday

The Master of Early Child Development (MECD) programme is pleased to announce a standalone course scheduled from August to December 2026. This course is part of the programme curriculum but can also be taken without enrolling in a degree programme.

Course Description

Qualitative research methods were developed as a result of researchers' difficulty in exploring human behavior in simple measurable terms used by quantitative researchers. The researchers working in social sciences: psychology, sociology, anthropology, child development and education have been interested in studying human beings within their social contexts. Hence questions of 'why' certain things are the way they are in the social world are much more appropriately answered through qualitative research. Through this course, students will develop a basic understanding of the nature of qualitative inquiry (vis-à-vis quantitative inquiry) as well as engage in some of the processes and practices of designing and conducting qualitative research. The course will focus on philosophical assumptions as well as concepts and methods of data collection that are common to qualitative research.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the broad notions and nature of research in child development and education.
- Comprehend the theoretical underpinning of research in social science including early childhood development and education.
- Grasp theoretical issues underpinning the adoption of a research design.
- Apply a range of qualitative research approaches, methods and tools to address problems in child development and education.
- Develop an understanding of ways of constructing, analyzing, and reporting qualitative data.

Audience

Physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, educationists, nutritionists, psychologists, sociologists, early-career professionals, interested in pursuing Early Child Development (ECD) as a potential career path.

Important Information

- Submit the form via e-mail at visiting.application@aku.edu along with the followings as PDF file:
- Completed and signed application form along with photograph
- Attested copy of degree and marks sheet of sixteen years of schooling in the relevant field as mentioned in the criteria
- Attested copy of CNIC / Passport
- Attested copy of work experience letter

Interested candidates are encouraged to ensure that their applications are duly completed, as incomplete applications will not be processed. Kindly note, AKU may request additional documentation or equivalence certificate to seek clarity on your qualification.

Course Directors:

Dr. Nasima Shakeel Ahmed Jan,

Assistant Professor,

Institute for Educational Development, Pakistan

Dr. Nipael Mrutu

Assistant Professor,

Institute for Educational Development, EA.

Enrolment Criteria

- Sixteen (16) years of education, or four (4) years after HSSC/F.A./F.Sc./Grade 12 (or equivalent) from an accredited /recognized university.
- Candidates who have at least one year of full-time work experience in an ECD-related field.

Course credit can contribute towards a master's Degree

Candidates who achieve a CGPA of 3.5 or above after completing two courses or a CGPA of 3.0 or above after completing three courses are exempted from writing the Admission Test. They will be required to appear for an Interview. The courses are valid for three years only for entry into the MECD programme.



Register Now

Deadline is July 10, 2026

Course fees:

- Residential Students PKR 117,000/-
- Non-Residential Students USD 680