NCRM Social Sciences Research Methods Typology (2014)

Level 1 Categories	Level 2 Subcategories	Level 3 Descriptor Terms
Frameworks for Research and Research Designs		
	Epistemology	Philosophy of social science; Critical theory; Feminist methods; Humanistic methods; Interpretivism; Positivism; Postmodernism; Poststructuralism
	Descriptive Research	
	Exploratory Research	
	Explanatory Research and Causal analysis	
	Comparative and Cross National Research	Cross-national research; Cross-cultural research; Comparative research; Historical comparative research
	Survey Research	
	Cross-Sectional Research	Repeated cross-sections
	Longitudinal Research	Panel survey; Cohort study; Qualitative longitudinal research (QLR); Mixed methods longitudinal research
	Experimental Research	Experimental design; Laboratory studies; Randomized Control Trials (RCT)
	Quasi-Experimental Research	Case-control studies; Difference-in-differences (DID); Paired comparison; Instrumental variables; Regression discontinuity; Twin studies
	Evaluation Research	Policy evaluation; Consumer satisfaction; Theory of change methods
	Case Study	
	Pilot Study	
	Participatory Research	Child-led research; Emancipatory research; Inclusive research; Indigenous methodology;

		Participatory Action Research (PAR); User engagement
	Action Research	Participatory Action Research (PAR)
	Ethnographic Research	
	Behavioural Research	
	Meta-Analysis	Mantel-Haenszel methods
	Systematic Review	
	Secondary Analysis	Archival research; Documentary research; Analysis of official statistics; Analysis of existing survey data; Analysis of administrative data; Analysis of secondary qualitative data
	Digital Social Research	Online qualitative fieldwork; Analysis of social media; Big data analytics; Online experimental research
	Mixed Methods	Multi-strategy research; Mixing qualitative and quantitative approaches; Convergent designs; Embedded designs; Multiphase designs; Parallel designs
	Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Research	
	Frameworks for Research and Research Designs (other)	Hypothesis testing research; Intervention studies
Data Collection		
	Sampling	Survey sampling; Qualitative sampling; Probability sampling methods; Non-probability sampling; Respondent Driven; Sampling (RDS); Distance sampling
	Participant Recruitment	Hard to reach populations; Excluded/marginalised populations; Gatekeepers
	Survey and Questionnaire Design	Questionnaire design; Pretesting questionnaire; Cognitive testing; Face-to-face survey interview; Telephone/video call survey interview; Self-completed questionnaire; Postal questionnaire;

		Online questionnaire; Open-ended questions; Assessment instruments; Design of scales
	Diary Methods	
	Qualitative Interviewing	Qualitative interview design; Focus groups; Face-to-face qualitative interviewing; Qualitative telephone/video call interviewing; Email/online qualitative interviews; Self-interviews; Walking interviews; Vignettes; Recording interviews; Videoing interviews; Unstructured interviews; Semi-structured interviews; Structured interviews; Transcribing
	Observation	Structured observation; Unstructured/ ethnographic observation; Real time and video observation; Participant observation ; Non-participant observation; Mass observation; Laboratory observation
	Biometric Data Collection	
	Delphi Technique	
	Visual Methods	Arts-based methods; Photographic research; Video research
	Multimodal Research	Kineikonic mode
	Online Data Collection	Big data; Mobile digital data; Online communities; Social media data
	Data Collection (other)	
Data Quality and Data Management		
	Data Management	Data archiving; Data governance; Data management plans; Data security; Encryption; File-sharing; Information management; Sensitive data

	Quality in Qualitative Research	Catalytic validity; Reflexivity; Transparency; Trustworthiness
	Quality in Quantitative Research	Reliability; Validity; Total survey error; Evaluation of research
	Measurement Error	Random measurement error; Systematic measurement error; Mode effects; Multitrait multimethod; Satisficing
	Data Editing	Variable recoding
	Nonresponse	Missing data; Unit nonresponse; Item nonresponse; Imputation; Weighting
	Statistical Disclosure Control	
	Data Quality and Data Management (other)	
Qualitative Data Handling and Data Analysis		
	Discourse Analysis	Discursive analysis; Metaphor analysis
	Interaction Analysis	
	Conversation Analysis	Voice-centred relational method
	Content Analysis	
	Narrative Methods	
	Analysis of Composite Data	
	Corpus Analysis	
	Documentary Analysis	Semiotic analysis
	Biographical Methods/Oral History	
	Grounded Theory	
	Ethnography	Autoethnography; Hypermedia ethnography
	Phenomenology	Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA)
	Visual Methods	
	Thematic Analysis	
	Framework Analysis	
	Qualitative Longitudinal	

	Analysis	
	Multimodal Analysis	
	Attributional Analysis	
	Actor Network Theory	
	Textual Analysis	
	Qualitative Comparative Analysis	
	Qualitative Data Coding	
	Qualitative Approaches (other)	
Quantitative Data Handling and Data Analysis		
	Descriptive Statistics	Correlation; Effect size; Levels of measurement; Variance estimation
	Statistical Theory and Methods of Inference	Probability theory; Power analysis; Parametric statistics; Non-parametric statistics; Bayesian methods; Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)
	Small Area Estimation	M-Quantile models; Multilevel models; Spatial microsimulation;
	Microdata Methods	Data linkage; Micro-econometrics
	Regression Methods	Ordinary least squares (OLS); Generalized liner model (GLM); Generalized least squares (GLS); ANOVA; ANCOVA; Linear regression; Log-linear regression; Logistic regression; Probit regression; Discrete choice/count models; Instrumental variables estimation; Heteroskedasticity; Poisson regression; Rasch modelling; Additive intensity model; Ordinal regression; Regression discontinuity ; Categorical data analysis
	Multilevel Modelling	Hierarchical models;

		Mixed models; Random effects
	Longitudinal Data Analysis	Panel data models; Arrelano-Bond estimation; Cross-lagged panel models; Growth curve models; Growth mixture models; Latent class growth analysis
	Event History Analysis	Hazard analysis; Survival analysis; Duration analysis; Poisson regression
	Spatial Data Analysis	Point pattern analysis; Network analysis; Area-based analysis; Surface modelling; Geographical Information System (GIS); Geodemographics; Geographically weighted regression; Spatial distribution; Spatio-temporal analysis
	Latent Variable Models	Graphical modelling; Latent class analysis; Latent profile analysis; Latent trait analysis; Principal components analysis; Factor analysis; Confirmatory factor analysis; Structural equation models; Rasch models; Item response theory; Correspondence analysis; Cluster analysis
	Time Series Analysis	Forecasting; Space-time path
	Data Mining	Data fusion; Neural networks; Machine learning
	Simulation	Agent-based modelling; Bootstrap simulation; Permutation tests
	Non-Parametric Approaches	Nonparametric maximum likelihood (NPML)
	Econometrics	
	Q Methodology	
	Quantitative Approaches (other)	Boolean algebra; Dynamic models; Formal logic; Generalised Method of Moments (GMM); Propensity score matching;

		Sensitivity analysis; Simultaneous equations models
Mixed Methods data handling and data analysis		
	Social Network Analysis	Interaction analysis
	Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches	Complementary; Integration; Triangulation
	Mixed Methods Approaches (other)	
ICT and Software		
	Qualitative Software	ATLAS.ti; Maxqda; NVivo; Transana; Computer Aided Qualitative Analysis Software (CAQDAS)
	Quantitative Software	ArcGIS; Excel; MLwiN; Mplus; Python; R; SAS; SPSS; Stata; Winbugs
	Technology	Grid technology
	ICT and Software (other)	Latex
Research Management and Impact		
	Research and Project Management	Change management; Performance management; Leading and chairing meetings; Staff management; Time management; Recruitment and selection; Coaching and mentoring skills
	Confidentiality and Anonymity	
	Research Ethics	
	Research Policy	
	Evidence-Based Policy and Practice	
	Management of User Involvement	
	Consultancy Skills	Client or user relationship
	Regulatory and Legal Aspects	Copyright; Data protection;

		Intellectual property; Plagiarism; Research governance
	Research Management and Impact (other)	
Research Skills, Communication and Dissemination		
	Researching Literature	Literature reviews
	Writing Skills	Grant applications; Report writing; Writing for publications; Writing research blogs; Disseminating with social media
	Conference Posters and Presentations	
	Alternative Methods of Dissemination	Dissemination through Film and Video; Dissemination through Poetry; Dissemination through Theatre
	Data Visualisation	Creating graphs and charts; Interactive data visualisation; Mind maps
	Teaching and Supervising Research Methods	E-learning; Webinars; Blended learning; Face-to-face/classroom learning; Workshops; Supervision of research students; Training research methods teachers
	Research Skills, Communication and Dissemination (other)	Interviewer skills and training