

Type of Analysis	Questions it can answer	How to gather data/sources	How to analyze data
Quantitative	General trends and patterns across a large sample; correlations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•surveys (yes/no questions, quantifiable answers); large and representative sample</li> <li>•experiments</li> <li>•already existing data bases of survey data</li> <li>•archival sources that are quantifiable (e.g., census, voting results, etc.)</li> </ul>	Quantitative analysis, i.e., finding correlations, running regressions, etc.
Qualitative	Questions of meaning for communities and individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•ethnography</li> <li>•in-depth interviews, often using “snowball sample”, relatively small numbers of interviews</li> <li>•archival or textual sources that can be coded for subjective interpretations (e.g., diaries, letters; speeches, literature, art and philosophy)</li> </ul>	Code to find overarching themes and sub-themes
Historical	What happened and why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•key informant interviews of those most likely to know the essential information</li> <li>•archival sources that can tell “what happened”, e.g., newspaper clippings, meeting minutes, government reports on certain incidents.</li> </ul>	<p>Analytical case studies, often comparative or implicitly comparative</p> <p>(See below for two comparative strategies)</p>