

## **Conducting Observations and Interviews**

Date: May 3 (Thur) & May 8 (Tue), 2018

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Venue: Room P501 (one level below the Wang Gungwu Lecture Hall), Graduate House

This workshop will introduce the essential part of the ethnographic research method, namely, participant observation and in-depth interview. Discussion topics will include: reasons behind conducting observations, entering a field, membership role of the researcher, conducting observations, writing fieldnotes, conducting interviews, and data coding and analysis. Participants will practice non-intrusive observations on campus during the first session of the workshop and will be asked to write a fieldnote as homework. Participants are expected to appreciate the value of qualitative research and get hands-on training on how to conduct observations and interviews.

This 6-hour workshop will be divided into two sessions. The first session on May 3 will discuss why using observation as a mean of data collection, how to enter a field, the role of the researcher, writing fieldnotes, and conducting an observation on campus. The second session on May 8 will discuss the participants' fieldnotes and the methods of interviewing. Participants will role-play interviewing in class. Data coding by using NVivo will be demonstrated briefly.

### **Registration**

Students who are interested should complete the “Application Form for Workshop Registration”

([http://www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/f/page/594/2908/GSworkshop\\_regform.pdf](http://www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/f/page/594/2908/GSworkshop_regform.pdf))

and submit it to the Graduate School no later than **April 30, 2018**. Places will be offered on a **first-come-first-served basis**.

### **About the workshop instructor**

[Dr. Cheris Chan](#) is an associate professor of sociology at the Faculty of Social Sciences at HKU. She has conducted a number of ethnographic research projects that cover a wide range of topics, such as new religious movements, culture, economic practices, medical care, globalization, and contemporary China. Her works, all based on rigorous qualitative methods, have been published in top-tier journals and received various awards. Dr. Chan is currently researching doctor-patient relationship in China.