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Abstract

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Qualitative Research: A Primer for Undergraduate Researchers

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The methods of gaining knowledge for humankind has always been research, whether it be formal or informal. The present study takes an in-depth look at qualitative research. Qualitative research is often dismissed in favor of quantitative research. In educational settings, however, qualitative research can be advantageous as it retains the human element and provides the opportunity to gain a more holistic perspective on the lives of individual children as well as the culture of schools, districts, and even systems of education. This study provides general overviews and particular processes of various means of qualitative research. Methodological advantages and shortcomings are provided as well so educators can make the best decision as to which medium of research would be best for the scenario they wish to investigate.