**Alternatives to face-to-face methods of data collection**

COVID-19 has imposed several challenges to our learning and teaching environment, to our social relations and to our daily lives in general. It may also affect the way that you design your dissertation. This means that the original research design planned for your dissertation may need to change and/or to be adapted to avoid face-to-face data collection. You will have to consider moving to online data collection, desk base research or to redesign your research project to consider other methods. These changes of course have other effects, as it may require changing or modifying research questions and amending ethics forms (particularly in relation to issues of recording consent and keep participants informed). However, this is also an opportunity to explore a wider range of methods of data collection across Geography and other Social Sciences. The list below provides some references that may help you in this process.

**Visual Analysis**

Rose, G (2016) Visual Methodologies. An Introduction to Researching with Visual Materials. 4th Edition. London: SAGE.

Dodge, M (2017). Mapping II: News media mapping, new mediated geovisualities, mapping and verticality. Progress in Human geography. Volume: 42 issue: 6, page(s): 949-958

Leszczynski, A. (2018) Digital methods II: Digital-visual methods. Progress in Human Geography. 43 issue: 6, page(s): 1143-1152 <https://doi.org/10.1177/0309132518787997>

Greiner, A. (2014). Visualizing human geography: At home in a diverse world (2nd ed.). New York: Wiley.

Keeling, D. J. (2015). A picture is worth 1000 words: The Plastic Coast of Andalusia, Spain. Focus on Geography, 58(3), 150–151.

**Social Media Analysis**

Shelton, T. Spatialities of data: mapping social media ‘beyond the geotag’. GeoJournal 82, 721–734 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10708-016-9713-3>

Zheye Wang & Xinyue Ye (2018) Social media analytics for natural disaster management, International Journal of Geographical Information Science, 32:1, 49-72, DOI: 10.1080/13658816.2017.1367003

Wei Tu, Jinzhou Cao, Yang Yue, Shih-Lung Shaw, Meng Zhou, Zhensheng Wang, Xiaomeng Chang, Yang Xu & Qingquan Li (2017) Coupling mobile phone and social media data: a new approach to understanding urban functions and diurnal patterns, International Journal of Geographical Information Science, 31:12, 2331-2358, DOI: 10.1080/13658816.2017.1356464

**Online Interviewing**

James, N. and Busher, H. (2016) Online Interviewing in David Silverman, 2016, Qualitative Research.London: SAGE. 245-260

O'Connor, H. and Madge, C. (2017) Online Interviewing in Nigel G. Fielding, Raymond M. Lee and Grant Blank 2017 The SAGE Handbook of Online Research Methods, 2nd Edition. London: SAGE 416-434

Annaclaudia Martini & Dorina-Maria Buda (2019) Analysing affects and emotions in tourist e-mail interviews: a case in post-disaster Tohoku, Japan, Current Issues in Tourism, 22:19, 2353-2364, DOI: 10.1080/13683500.2018.1511693

**Online Surveys**

Madge, C. and O’Connor, H. 2004. Online methods in geography educational research. Journal of Geography in Higher Education 28(1): 143-152.

Parfitt, J. 2005. Questionnaire design and sampling. In Flowerdew, R. and Martin, D. (eds.) Methods in Human Geography: A Guide for Students Doing a Research Project (2nd edition). Harlow: Pearson Education, pp. 78-109. (Also available on Google books).

**Digital Archives Guide** – This guide has been compiled by Dr Sneha Krishnan (University of Oxford)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/194WOKhNGqPH8Os08DsVyZnV71yZ27no0-uiK0hlDWuc/mobilebasic>

 **‘Doing Fieldwork in a Pandemic’** Crowdsourced document initiated by Deborah Lupton (Sociology Professor, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia), gathers 37 pages of sources on social research and no face-to-face methods of data collection [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1clGjGABB2h2qbduTgfqribHmog9B6P0NvMgVuiHZCl8/preview#](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1clGjGABB2h2qbduTgfqribHmog9B6P0NvMgVuiHZCl8/preview)

**Relevant sources in other disciplines**

\*The sources below were compiled by Dr Adam Jowett (Coventry University)

This book provides excellent guides on methods of data collection that don’t require face-to-face interaction: Braun, V., Clarke, V., & Gray, D. (Eds.). (2017). Collecting qualitative data: A practical guide to textual, media and virtual techniques. Cambridge University Press

Conducting interviews via Skype (or Zoom, FaceTime etc) Lo Iacono, V., Symonds, P., & Brown, D. H. (2016). Skype as a tool for qualitative research interviews. Sociological Research Online, 21(2), 1-15. <https://repository.cardiffmet.ac.uk/bitstream/handle/10369/7883/Skype%20as%20a%20Tool%20for%20Qualitative%20Research%20Interviews-Lo%20Iacano%20V.pdf?sequence=3&isAllowed=y>

Qualitative surveys. E.g.

Jowett, A., & Peel, E. (2017). ‘A question of equality and choice’: same-sex couples’ attitudes towards civil partnership after the introduction of same-sex marriage. Psychology & Sexuality, 8(1-2), 69-80. [https://researchgate.net/profile/Adam\_Jowett2/publication/316167798\_'A\_question\_of\_equality\_and\_choice'\_same-sex\_couples'\_attitudes\_towards\_civil\_partnership\_after\_the\_introduction\_of\_same-sex\_marriage/links/598ae1ab0f7e9b9d44d12fa7/A-question-of-equality-and-choice-same-sex-couples-attitudes-towards-civil-partnership-after-the-introduction-of-same-sex-marriage.pdf](https://researchgate.net/profile/Adam_Jowett2/publication/316167798_%27A_question_of_equality_and_choice%27_same-sex_couples%27_attitudes_towards_civil_partnership_after_the_introduction_of_same-sex_marriage/links/598ae1ab0f7e9b9d44d12fa7/A-question-of-equality-and-choice-same-sex-couples-attitudes-towards-civil-partnership-after-the-introduction-of-same-sex-marriage.pdf)

Analysing media representations e.g. Jowett, A., & Peel, E. (2010). Seismic Cultural Change?”: British media representations of same-sex ‘marriage. In Women's Studies International Forum, 33(3), 206-214 <https://curve.coventry.ac.uk/open/file/745eefdb-9ebb-bfdb-9272-3062c75896ce/1/jowettcomb.pdf>

Analysing discourse within the media (e.g. commentary pieces and letters to editors). E.g. Jowett, A. (2017). ‘One can hardly call them homophobic’: Denials of antigay prejudice within the same-sex marriage debate. Discourse & Society, 28(3), 281-295. [https://researchgate.net/profile/Adam\_Jowett2/publication/313235388\_'One\_can\_hardly\_call\_them\_homophobic'\_Denials\_of\_antigay\_prejudice\_within\_the\_same-sex\_marriage\_debate/links/59eb44eaaca272cddddef393/One-can-hardly-call-them-homophobic-Denials-of-antigay-prejudice-within-the-same-sex-marriage-debate.pdf](https://researchgate.net/profile/Adam_Jowett2/publication/313235388_%27One_can_hardly_call_them_homophobic%27_Denials_of_antigay_prejudice_within_the_same-sex_marriage_debate/links/59eb44eaaca272cddddef393/One-can-hardly-call-them-homophobic-Denials-of-antigay-prejudice-within-the-same-sex-marriage-debate.pdf)

Analyzing magazines e.g. Farvid, P., & Braun, V. (2006). ‘Most of us guys are raring to go anytime, anyplace, anywhere’: Male and female sexuality in Cleo and Cosmo. Sex roles, 55(5-6), 295-310. <https://researchgate.net/profile/Virginia_Braun/publication/225412034_%27Most_of_Us_Guys_are_Raring_to_Go_Anytime_Anyplace_Anywhere%27_Male_and_Female_Sexuality_in_Cleo_and_Cosmo/links/09e41504f42274d844000000.pdf>

Instant messaging interviews: Jowett, A., Peel, E., & Shaw, R. (2011). Online interviewing in psychology: Reflections on the process. Qualitative Research in Psychology, 8(4), 354-369. <https://s3.amazonaws.com/academia.edu.documents/47968316/Jowett_A_Peel_E_and_Shaw_RL_2011_Online.pdf?response-content-disposition=inline%3B%20filename%3DJowett_A_Peel_E_and_Shaw_RL_2011_Online.pdf&X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAIWOWYYGZ2Y53UL3A%2F20200318%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20200318T074752Z&X-Amz-Expires=3600&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=9cc43151809415a906381d339f46e5b384f33f588f07906928cf51726bdd89b9>

Analysing online forums: Jowett, A. (2015). A case for using online discussion forums in critical psychological research. Qualitative Research in Psychology, 12(3), 287-297. <https://curve.coventry.ac.uk/open/file/d01f7b43-5ab9-4020-bd9c-89d4e043b1eb/1/Using%20online%20forums%20in%20critical%20psychology%20%28revised_version%29.pdf>

Online vignette studies: Gray, D., Malson, H., & Royall, B. (2017). Hypothetically speaking: Using vignettes as a stand-alone qualitative method. <https://uwe-repository.worktribe.com/preview/835134/IQR%20Vignettes_V3%20untracked.pdf>

Story completion methods

Clarke, V., Hayfield, N., Moller, N., & Tischner, I. (2017). Once upon a time…: Story completion methods <http://oro.open.ac.uk/48404/3/IQR%20SC%20Chapter%20-%20FINAL.pdf>