Qualitative Interviewing Skills-Building Training

The Training:
Qualitative interviewing is a key method in human and social sciences, valued for its ability to capture participants' perspectives in their own words. This intensive two-day training offers a comprehensive introduction to core concepts and practical skills in qualitative interviewing. We emphasize building on individual strengths and personal qualities to develop or refine a unique interviewing style.

Delivered in a small group format, our training provides personalized attention and a dynamic blend of instructional approaches to create an engaging and adaptable learning environment. Through a mix of engaging lectures, interactive role-playing, hands-on interview practice, personalized feedback sessions, and real-world case studies, our multifaceted approach ensures a robust understanding of qualitative interviewing techniques.

Participants benefit from a comprehensive skills assessment at the onset of the training, providing invaluable insights into their strengths and areas for improvement. This assessment lays the groundwork for personalized learning, helping participants to tailor their practice sessions to best match their skillset needs and professional objectives.

Throughout the training, participants engage in up to 5 hours of interview practice with standardized informants, providing ample opportunity to apply newly acquired skills in a supportive environment. Following each practice session, participants receive up to 30 minutes of personalized feedback, facilitating immediate reflection and growth.

At the conclusion of the training, participants receive a resource guide and a certificate of completion.

Learning Objectives:
- Define qualitative research and outline common uses of semi-structured interviews in qualitative and mixed methods research, including their advantages and limitations.

- Identify key components of an effective semi-structured interview guide.

- Employ various strategies to craft interview questions that are clear, facilitate depth in participant responses, and remain relevant to the research objectives.

- Practice building rapport with interview participants, and develop effective questioning techniques, i.e., active listening, follow-up questions, and probing for richer responses.

- Identify and apply best practices for in-person and remote interviewing, including implementing strategies for managing challenging interview situations.

- Assess the quality of interview data, considering factors like depth of responses and participant engagement, and develop strategies to troubleshoot common quality issues.

- Recognize ethical concerns in qualitative interviewing, including handling sensitive information and managing emotionally charged interview scenarios.

- Practice effective notetaking during and after interviews, and identify best practices for using fieldnotes, case notes, and summary tables to facilitate effective sampling.

The two-day training will be held at UCSF Mission Bay Campus in-person. We anticipate offering this training twice a year during the spring and fall.

Audience:
This training is designed for professionals in healthcare or public health settings, though its foundational concepts and skills are applicable across various fields. Whether you are a novice seeking to develop foundational interviewing skills, preparing to launch a semi-structured interview project, or an experienced interviewer aiming to refine your technique, this training offers valuable insights and practical strategies to enhance your qualitative interviewing skills.

- *New to qualitative interviewing?* This training offers a comprehensive introduction to core concepts and foundational skills. You will undergo a baseline interviewer skills assessment, participate in three hour-long skill-building practice sessions, and complete a summative assessment. Throughout, you will receive personalized feedback to boost your confidence and proficiency.

- *Preparing to conduct research using semi-structured interviews?* Our training provides expert guidance to refine your research plan, develop effective interview guides, and pilot study materials with standardized informants. We offer instruction and technical support to ensure you're fully prepared to enter the field with refined materials and a clear plan of action.

- *Already skilled in interviewing?* This training will further elevate your abilities. Start with a baseline interviewer skills assessment to identify improvement areas, then choose from a range of practice sessions tailored to your needs. Options include foundational skills, interviewing clinic staff, conducting cognitive interviews, or integrating AI into guide refinement. You'll leave with sharpened skills, a deeper understanding of your strengths and areas for growth.

Registration will close once capacity is reached. A waitlist will be created thereafter.

To Register: https://prevention.ucsf.edu/about/besst-institute/upcoming-trainings