

## **Quality Control of Research in Social Sciences: An Audit procedure**

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A growing body of studies involves complex research processes facing many interpretations and iterations during the analyses. Complex research generally has an explorative in-depth qualitative nature. Because these studies rely less on standardized procedures of data gathering and analysis, it is often not clear how quality was insured or assured. However, one can not easily find techniques that are suitable for such complex research processes to assess the quality of the study.

In this workshop, a validation procedure will be presented that enables researchers to bring forward their explorative (qualitative) studies as stronger and more equally valuable to studies that can rely on standardized procedures.

The participants will set up an audit trail for their own research project. This means that they have to decide what quality criteria they will use for their research project, which documents they will put in the audit trail, who the auditor will be, what tasks and roles the auditee and auditor will have, how the auditor will perform the audit, and how they proceed with the audit procedure and the results of it. Participants will work in small groups on their audit.

### **Short Biography**

Dr Sanne Akkerman is researcher and educational advisor at IVLOS Institute of Education. Her PhD and publications mostly concern individual and group identity issues in collaboration and communication. In her work as PhD supervisor and methodological advisor, she is concerned with quality issues in social scientific research. Together with colleagues Wilfried Admiraal, Mieke Brekelmans and Heinze Oost, she developed the audit procedure.