



Special Issue: Critical issues in visual methodology

Guest Editors

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Visual methodology in educational research is at an important turning point. In this Special Issue we want to recognise the rapid expansion of the field and the potential for growth and relevance for education, but wish authors to reflect critically on the ways in which visual methods are used: the collection of data; approaches to analysis and dissemination; the questions visual data are being used to address and those they are not; and how research identified as 'visual' is located in the wider field and how it contributes to the wider aspirations of research for learning and teaching.

This Special Issue aims to facilitate dialogue about visual methodology in educational research and to explore how researchers in the field are conceptualising quality in visual methods. We invite contributors to investigate issues of trustworthiness, rigour, reliability, validity and credibility and how these can be approached to give visual methods equivalent status alongside other education research practices. Overall the purpose of this issue is to focus on emerging theoretical debates about the role of visual methods in the creation and translation of knowledge and their relevance for education.

Papers in this issue should address, but are not limited to, the following questions:

- Does the use of visual methods in educational research imply an allegiance to particular paradigmatic assumptions or open the way to mixed method approaches?
- What is the role of visual methodology in contributing to epistemological frameworks?
- What is the relationship between visual methods and participatory research?
- What constitutes sound ethical practice throughout the visual research process in education?
- How can we work with visual data using a range of analytic frames and what are the relative claims for rigour?

We want to exemplify good practice in visual analysis and so are interested in rich critical reflections on process relating to the analysis and representation of visual data. Articles for consideration should be either:

- approximately 7,000 words in length, giving comprehensive consideration to the issues raised by the questions above, or
- 2,000 word research reports focusing on examples of approaches to analysing visual data.

The final issue is likely to include four 7,000 word papers and three to five 2,000 word pieces.

Dates to Note:

Manuscript Submission Due: 1st, December 2011

Revised Manuscript Submission Due: 1st, June 2012

Anticipated Publication: November 2012

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. A guide for authors along with other relevant information can be found on journal's homepage, <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/IJRME>

Submissions should be made online at the *International Journal of Research & Method in Education* Manuscript Central site: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cwse>.

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