



**EDUC 500: Research Methodology in Education  
Activities**

**Validity: Qualitative**

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**Critical Judgment of Qualitative Research**

From: Miles, M. B. & Huberman, A. M. (1994). *Qualitative data analysis*. Thousand Oaks, CA. pp. 277-79.

**Confirmability**— Can data, observations, narratives be tracked to their sources and confirmed?

**Credibility**— Is there an agreement between the way participants and narratives are represented and what they perceive or intended?

**Dependability**— Can sources and sites be found by retracing through the research methods? Can someone else do a similar study?

**Positionality and Standpoint Epistemology**— Self-conscious partiality. Are researcher positions and biases made clear and self-referential?

**Reflexivity**— Has the researcher turned back toward changes in her and his own practice?

**Transferability**— Does the research and resultant knowledge resonate with experiences of others? Is there a persuasive description of the case?

**Triangulation or Intersubjectivity**— Has evidence been checked across multiple sources and views? Has the research been constructed through varieties of sources and methods?

## **Transgressive Validity in Qualitative Research**

From: Lather, P. (1993). Fertile obsession: Validity after poststructuralism. *The Sociological Quarterly*, 34(4), 673-693.

\*Not a check on research, but an opening up of possibilities—not a solution, but a problem (Lather 1993)

**Catalytic Validity**— The tendency of the research and participants toward an incitement of change and discourse.

**Ironic Validity**— The movement of the research and participants toward problematization of language, representation and truth. The irony is in the act of authoring (language) in the face of an impossibility of representation.

**Paralogical Validity**— The possibilities and spaces in the research and participants' actions for the imagination and the unsaid or unseen. Are there, and is there room for, different beginnings, narratives and endings?

**Rhizomatic Validity**— The subversive and unsettling nature of the research and participants and the turn toward working against authority, creating networks of disruption and resistance. Weediness in the research.

**Voluptuous Validity**— The movement of the research and participants toward disruptive excess, risky practice and the embodiment of ethics with epistemology. The tendency of the research to move through the feminine and outside of conventional boundaries.