

## Delphi Method in Academic Research: A Step-by-Step Guide for faculty members

This open educational resource (OER) presents a structured overview of the Delphi Method in academic research. It supports the development of gender-aware, consensus-driven approaches in teaching, policy design, and institutional change.

### What is the Delphi Method?

A research survey technique used to collect experts' opinions on a specific topic, developed for systematic forecasting to achive consensus.

### When to Use it?

- Policy development
- Curriculum design
- · Technology foresight
- Gender-sensitive institutional change

#### **Core Characteristics**

- Iterative rounds
- Anonymity of experts
- Controlled feedback
- Statistical aggregation of responses

### Phase of Delphi Study (3-Round Model)

#### Define the problem

- Frame the research question
- Identify key issues to explore

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#### **Select the expert Panel**

Diverse, knowledgeable, and independent participants

## Round 1: Open Questions

- Collect qualitative input
- Use open-ended questions
- Perform thematic analysis

# Round 2: Prioritisation

- Convert themes into items
- Use Likert scales or rankings
- Participants rate importance or agreement

# Round 3: Confirm & Adjust

- Share anonymised results from Round 2
- Participants can confirm or adjust their responses
- Aim for convergence of views

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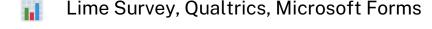
In qualitative responses:

- Apply double coding
- Discuss discrepancies between coders
- Calculate agreement (e.g., Krippendorf)

### **Report Results**

- Identify areas of agreement
- Analyse central tendency (e.g. median, SD)
- Report results transparently

### **Practical Tools**



Excel, R (Quantitative analysis)

Atlas.ti, NVivo (Qualitative coding)

Power Automate (Automatic flows)

### **Practical Tips**



Maintain anonymity



Avoid dominance voices



Clarify instructions to experts



Use feedback summaries between rounds

### References

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### **GEDIS** project context

This resource is part of the European project GEDIS (Gender Diversity in Information Science), which promotes open educational tools to tackle gender inequalities in higher education, with an emphasis on disciplines related to Information and Library Science.

GEDIS - Gender Diversity in Information Science: Challenges in Higher Education. https://ub.edu/gedis

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