Qualitative Analysis Lab #2: Focus Groups

Topic #1:

Cross-system collaboration can improve service delivery and outcomes for clients within a variety of social service systems (e.g. mental health, child welfare, criminal justice, education, etc...). How can social service systems improve cross-system collaboration?

Topic #2:

A strength-based approach emphasizes identification and use of client resources and competencies as a fundamental aspect of social work. What are the benefits and barriers of using a strength-based approach to social work?

The class will be divided into 2 groups.

- 1) In your group, discuss the topic and develop a set of approximately 8 questions on the topic.
- 2) Each group will have a total of 2 facilitators, and each will take a turn facilitating (switching half-way), and 1 note-taker. If the focus group is recorded, then a note-taker is not necessary.
- 3) Facilitators and note-takers will be chosen randomly by drawing names.
- 4) Discuss human subjects' considerations and how to obtain informed consent for a focus group.
- 5) Each group will take turns and conduct the focus group in front of the class.
- 6) The focus group should last 20 minutes.
- 7) Each student will transcribe the focus group (or use their notes) and analyze the findings with a 2-3 page paper.