



COLLEGE OF
HUMAN SCIENCES
AND EDUCATION
KIMEP UNIVERSITY

LevelUpLab 2026

Specialised Research Training

Mixed Methods Research: Design, Integration, Practice



Expert

**TIMOTHY C.
GUETTERMAN**

University of Michigan, USA



May 18-22, 2026

Monday-Friday



9:00-14:00



KIMEP University,
Almaty, Kazakhstan



COLLEGE OF
HUMAN SCIENCES
AND EDUCATION
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CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

LevelUpLab 2026 – Mixed Methods
Research: Design, Integration, Practice

May 18–22, 2026 | KIMEP University |
Almaty, Kazakhstan



ABOUT LEVELUPLAB

Building on its successful launches in 2024 and 2025, LevelUpLab enters its third iteration in 2026 as a focused, research-intensive professional development program. This year's edition is dedicated exclusively to the Research Track, reflecting the complexity of mixed-methods research and the sustained, independent work it demands.

LevelUpLab 2026 is a five-day in-person program focused on the design and conduct of rigorous mixed-methods research. It is intended for early-career academics, doctoral students, and experienced faculty seeking to strengthen their methodological expertise. Sessions are delivered in two 75-minute blocks per day, allowing sufficient time for explanation, application, and critical discussion.

Hosted by the College of Human Sciences and Education at KIMEP University, the program emphasizes methodological rigor, coherence of research design, and meaningful integration of qualitative and quantitative approaches. The decision to offer a single track reflects a strategic choice to prioritize depth of engagement and avoid the fragmentation associated with parallel intensive programs.

By the end of the program, participants will have developed the core components of a coherent mixed-methods study, including research questions or objectives, a mixed-methods design, identified data sources, and an integration strategy. These components are intended to support the development of a research proposal, evaluation study, or manuscript for publication.

WHAT MAKES LEVELUPLAB UNIQUE?

Methodological depth as a design principle

LevelUpLab 2026 is structured around a single, complex methodological domain rather than a broad survey of topics. Five full days are devoted to the logic, design, integration, and writing of mixed-methods studies, enabling sustained engagement and conceptual coherence that short-form professional development rarely achieves.

Active methodological work, not passive exposure

The program is organized around doing research design work rather than discussing it abstractly. Participants apply mixed methods principles through guided exercises, structured discussion, and individual project development, with a consistent emphasis on design decisions and integration strategies.

Expert-led training grounded in current research practice

The program is led by Dr Timothy C. Guetterman, an Associate Professor at the University of Michigan and a leading authority in mixed-methods research. As Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Mixed Methods Research* and co-author of foundational methods texts, he brings current disciplinary standards and editorial insight directly into the training.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

- **Preparation Phase (May 11–17)** – Participants review online, open-access materials curated by the experts in advance of the in-person sessions. These materials are listed under the Pre-Workshop Reading List sections provided in each expert's track and are designed to maximize the effectiveness of interactive discussions and activities during the Active Learning Phase.
- **Active Learning Phase (May 18–22)** – Participants attend interactive, skills-based workshops at the KIMEP campus and work toward an academic end-product.



REGISTRATION DETAILS

Eligibility:

LevelUpLab 2026 is open to:

- University faculty members (senior and junior)
- PhD students
- Researchers seeking focused academic development in research and publishing

Maximum Capacity:

Due to the high-intensity, hands-on nature of the training, the number of available slots is limited to 40 participants. Therefore, participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The first 40 participants to complete the online registration form will secure their places, while others will be placed on a waiting list.

Registration Fee Structure

Participant Category	Fee (KZT)	Notes
KIMEP Senior Faculty (professorial positions)	30,000	Full fee applies
KIMEP Junior Faculty (lecturer positions)	15,000	50% discount
KIMEP PhD Students	0	100% waiver
External Faculty	30,000	Full fee applies
External PhD Students	10,000	66% discount

What the Fee Covers:

- 5 days of intensive training
- Coffee breaks
- Participation kit
- Certificate of completion
- Access to pre-event online materials
- Access to Wi-Fi on campus

How to Register:

Participants must complete the online registration form available at: <https://forms.gle/LQP9bxurartj67JLA>

- Upon completing the form, the first 40 participants will receive an email from the organizing committee inviting them to pay the registration fee within 3 working days. Information on how to make the payment will be enclosed in our email. After payment, participants must email the receipt to Nurbeine Kossylganova at Nurbeine.k@kimep.kz with the subject line "Participation in LevelUpLab-2026" to confirm their places in the summer school. *Do not make any payment if you do not receive an email from us.*
- If payment is not made within 3 working days, the next person on the waiting list will be invited to make the payment and secure their spot.
- Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

Deadline to Register: May 8, 2026

Contact information:

- For queries regarding the structure of the summer school, program, the trainer, or the nature of the sessions, please contact the head of the organizing committee, Dr Askat Tleuov at A.Tleuov@kimep.kz
- For inquiries related to the registration process, please contact Miss Nurbeine Kossylganova at Nurbeine.k@kimep.kz
- All the on-site sessions from May 18-22 will be conducted at KIMEP University. See the program below for more details. Address: Abay Avenue 2, Almaty 050010, The Republic of Kazakhstan, KIMEP University.

Working languages:

The working language of the summer school is English.

Summer school organizing committee:

- Askat Tleuov, PhD (CHSE Research Director)
- Juldyz Smagulova, PhD (CHSE Dean)
- Nurbeine Kossylganova, MA (Program Manager)
- Marina Kim, MBA (CHSE Administrative Manager)



DESIGNING AND CONDUCTING MIXED METHODS RESEARCH: PRACTICAL SKILLS FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND EVALUATION



Timothy C. Guetterman, PhD

Associate Professor of Family Medicine

Associate Director of the Mixed Methods Program

University of Michigan, USA

Email: tguetter@umich.edu

About the Expert:

Timothy C. Guetterman, PhD, is an applied research methodologist specializing in general research design and mixed methods research. Tim is an Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Mixed Methods Program at the University of Michigan. His methodological interest is to advance rigorous methods for quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods research, particularly strategies for intersecting and integrating qualitative and quantitative research. He also conducts health services research focused on improving quality and safety through informatics technology. Tim has also focused on capacity building in teaching, learning, and research methods. He has extensive professional experience conducting program evaluation with a focus on educational and healthcare programs. He serves as Co-Editor-in-Chief for the Journal of Mixed Methods Research. He co-authored the sixth and seventh editions of Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research, with John W. Creswell. He is the Immediate Past-President of the Mixed Methods International Research Association.

- [University of Michigan Profile](#)

- [Google Scholar Profile](#)

Overview:

Mixed-methods research integrates qualitative and quantitative approaches to provide a more complete understanding and new insights. Over five days (two 75-minute sessions per day), this training will review the foundations of mixed methods research. It will be interactive, with periods of lecture, time to apply skills (exercises extensively used and vetted for building mixed-methods skills), and time to ask questions. The major topics covered include: defining mixed-methods research, crafting the intent (objectives, aims, research questions), identifying qualitative and quantitative data sources, selecting a mixed-methods design, achieving meaningful integration of qualitative and quantitative research, and writing mixed-methods research.

Aims: Develop skills in designing and conducting rigorous mixed methods research.

Target Skill: Designing mixed methods – writing mixed methods specific research questions or objectives, identifying a rationale for mixed methods, articulating data sources, selecting and describing a design through a procedural diagram, planning for and achieving integration.



DAILY SESSIONS SCHEDULE:

Day 1 – Monday, May 18

Foundations of Mixed Methods Research

- Define mixed methods research and distinguish it from qualitative and quantitative approaches
- Identify when and why mixed methods are warranted
- Examine common rationales for mixed methods research
- Introduce core mixed methods designs and terminology

Day 2 – Tuesday, May 19

Crafting Intent and Research Questions

- Develop mixed methods objectives, aims, and research questions
- Differentiate qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods questions
- Align research questions with appropriate mixed methods designs
- Identify qualitative and quantitative data sources

Day 3 – Wednesday, May 20

Selecting and Designing Mixed Methods Studies

- Review core mixed methods designs (convergent, explanatory sequential, exploratory sequential, embedded)
- Select appropriate designs based on research intent
- Develop procedural diagrams for mixed methods studies
- Address timing, priority, and points of interface

Day 4 – Thursday, May 21

Integration and Quality in Mixed Methods Research

- Examine integration as the defining feature of mixed methods research
- Explore strategies for integration at design, methods, and interpretation stages
- Use joint displays to integrate qualitative and quantitative data
- Apply core quality criteria for mixed methods research

Day 5 – Friday, May 22

Writing and Advancing Mixed Methods Studies

- Write mixed methods sections for proposals and manuscripts
- Present and critically discuss mixed methods study designs
- Discuss pathways to publication, funding, and evaluation contexts

Expected Outcome:

By the end of the training, participants will have the building blocks for a rigorous, coherent mixed-methods study. This includes a research question or objectives, a mixed methods study design, a data sources table, and a description of integration strategies. These products can help draft a proposal or a manuscript, depending on the participant's stage.

Pre-Workshop Reading List (May 11-17):

- Fetters, M. D., Curry, L. A., & Creswell, J. W. (2013). Achieving integration in mixed methods designs principles and practices. *Health Services Research*, 48(6 Pt 2), 2134–2156. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6773.12117>
- Guetterman, T. C., Fetters, M. D., & Creswell, J. W. (2015). Integrating quantitative and qualitative results in health science mixed methods research through joint displays. *Annals of Family Medicine*, 13(6), 554–561. <https://doi.org/10.1370/afm.1865>
- Guetterman, T. C., & Manojlovich, M. (2024). Grand rounds in methodology: Designing for integration in mixed methods research. *BMJ Quality & Safety*, 33(6), 470–478. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjqs-2023-016112>
- Hirose, M., & Creswell, J. W. (2022). Applying core quality criteria of mixed methods research to an empirical study. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 17(1), 12–28. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15586898221086346>



LEVELUPLAB 2026 PROGRAM

	TIME	Mixed Methods Research Sessions Expert: Timothy C. Guetterman, PhD	VENUE: VB – Valikhanov Building
DAY 1 – MAY 18	09:00 – 09:30	WELCOME COFFEE AND REGISTRATION	3rd floor
	09:30 – 10:00	OPENING CEREMONY	#326/VB
	10:00 – 11:15	Session 1	#322/VB
	11:15 – 11:30	Break	
	11:30 – 12:45	Session 2	#322/VB
	12:45 – 14:00	COFFEE BREAK	#326/VB
	14:00 – 16:00	Self-Guided Learning	
END OF DAY 1			
DAY 2 – MAY 19	09:30 – 10:00	MORNING COFFEE	3rd floor
	10:00 – 11:15	Session 1	#322/VB
	11:15 – 11:30	Break	
	11:30 – 12:45	Session 2	#322/VB
	12:45 – 14:00	COFFEE BREAK	3rd floor
	14:00 – 15:30	COLLABORATIVE KICK-OFF (an interactive and fun community-building activity)	#326/VB
	15:30 – 17:00	Self-Guided Learning	
END OF DAY 2			
DAY 3 – MAY 20	09:30 – 10:00	MORNING COFFEE	3rd floor
	10:00 – 11:15	Session 1	#322/VB
	11:15 – 11:30	Break	
	11:30 – 12:45	Session 2	#322/VB
	12:45 – 14:00	COFFEE BREAK	#326/VB
	14:00 – 16:00	Self-Guided Learning	
END OF DAY 3			
DAY 4 – MAY 21	09:30 – 10:00	MORNING COFFEE	3rd floor
	10:00 – 11:15	Session 1	#322/VB
	11:15 – 11:30	Break	
	11:30 – 12:45	Session 2	#322/VB
	12:45 – 14:00	COFFEE BREAK	#326/VB
	14:00 – 16:00	Self-Guided Learning	
END OF DAY 4			
DAY 5 – MAY 22	09:30 – 10:00	MORNING COFFEE	3rd floor
	10:00 – 11:15	Session 1	#322/VB
	11:15 – 11:30	Break	
	11:30 – 12:45	Session 2	#322/VB
	12:45 – 14:00	COFFEE BREAK	3rd floor
	14:00 – 15:00	CLOSING CEREMONY	#326/VB
END OF LEVELUPLAB 2026			