## ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1: RESEARCH PROPOSAL

* **The best proposals present a coherent research design**
	+ This includes formulating research questions that are consistent with the choice of design, collection and analysis
	+ The could include a motivation for the study’s relevance
	+ This could also include letting appropriate theory inform research questions
	+ This could include locating your study in relation to previous research
* **The best proposals have a plan for how rigour is incorporated into the design**
	+ This could include an awareness of basic principles of rigour in qualitative research
	+ This could also include suitable checks and balances with the interpretative community and the research field
	+ This could include triangulating sources or perspectives, and making sure you achieve a degree of representation of the subject(s) you intend to study
	+ This could also include having a strategy for analysing qualitative data
* **The best proposals should discuss strengths and weaknesses of the chosen data collection strategy**
	+ This could include reflecting on the quality and credibility of your collected data
	+ This could also include reflecting on choice of research subjects, and how it will affect findings, and issues of access
	+ This can also include demonstrating the ability to foresee possible problems of a logistical or ethical nature
* **The best proposal demonstrate an awareness of the ethical implications of the proposed research**
	+ This could be about awareness of your positionality and the impact of your intervention in the field (on issues, actors’ dynamics, environment)

## ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2: CASE PROBLEM

* **The best reports show clear and open reporting of methodological choices and practices**
	+ This could include being clear on what kind of interpretation framework is used
	+ This could include clear and critical reporting on data collection methods
	+ This could include clarifying alternative choices based on issues of access
* **The best reports should demonstrate reflexive management, including by showing how the researcher reflected on and adapted to dilemmas (cf. the ‘case problem’)**
	+ This could include being open about the researchers’ positionality
	+ This could include relevant checks and balances with your interpretative community and your research field
	+ This could include referring to memos, a research diary or other techniques documenting flexibility and reflexivity along the process
	+ This could include reflecting on ethical issues and demonstrating how ethical dilemmas were dealt with through open reporting
* **The best reports should demonstrate flexibility and sensitivity to emergent themes throughout the process**
	+ This could include accounting for the experiences of agents that it portrayed in the research
* **The best reports should be explicit on issues of rigour, not assume these virtues implicitly**
	+ This could include recognising researcher influence
	+ This could include showing how perspectives and/or sources were triangulated
	+ This could include demonstrating transferability by contextualising the case in the field of study and/or by using several case studies
* **The best reports combine creativity and rigour**