

The Big Ethnography

1. It's a cultural scene, not an interview or a series of interviews. Be sure to talk to lots of people and do participant observation. The more you spend time and open yourself to the experience the more you will learn.
2. You need to saturate your data collection. A couple of hours won't be enough. It might seem slow or boring at times if nothing is happening, but keep going to the scene and talking to the participants. You might need to go at a different time. Feel free to talk to the participants about what you are seeing and they will put you on the right track concerning what is interesting, difficult, exciting etc. about the scene for them. Aim for 20-40 hours at the scene.
3. For the written assignment, be sure to follow the structure of: topic, themes, analytic points. The topic is the overall culture scene you explored. The themes are a couple of main ideas you explore in the scene. These are supported by data and by analytic points. Each theme should have a couple of points. These three parts are hierarchical, but the themes may not be the same size unit. You should, however try for some balance. For example if you have a theme with 14 points and another with 1, you should really look at the larger theme and try to break it into a couple of themes and perhaps drop the original second theme since you don't have much data to support it.
4. Diagrams and pictures can be very helpful at explaining your ideas. Feel free to use them!
5. Please come and talk about your project in tutorial. It will help you reflect on your project at the very least and can help you more concretely through asking questions and discussing your project and also by hearing what the other students are doing. It is also comforting to hear that others are having similar obstacles in their projects. **Remember-social cultural anthropology is often as much reflecting on ourselves as on the cultural scenes we are studying.** If you don't want to talk in the group setting, please come and see me, my door is always open to talk! (Though sending me an email might help with scheduling).

Submission should include

- the paper itself (at least 10 pages double spaced)
- a list of a couple of references (4-7) that you cite in the paper (commonly in the introduction or the discussion) that link your work to the anthropology literature.
- As appendices: permission forms, any paper work/permissions you might have received; interview transcripts; participant observation notes (taken during the event and after, much like a diary entry)

Presentation

- Get photos of your scene to show us, supplement with internet images as needed
- You are encouraged to use power point for your presentation (bring your presentation on a memory stick that is PC friendly and we will load it on the day of the presentation)