Anthropology Honors Field Research

Fall 2019

Tues/Thurs
11am-12:20pm

SBSG 3323

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Welcome to the SECOND quarter of the Anthropology Honors Program. The main goal of this course sequence is for you to produce original anthropological scholarship that contributes new ideas and perspectives to the field.

To that end, by the end of this course you will be able to:

- Conduct ethnographic interviews and participant observation;
- Produce and organize field notes;
- Assess the quality of ethnographic data;
- Begin structured analysis of your data in Winter 2020.

Prerequisite: Anthro H190A
Co-requisite: Registration for 1 unit of Anthro H190 tutorial with your faculty advisor

ABOUT THE HONORS PROGRAM

The Anthropology Honors Program offers an opportunity for outstanding students to pursue advanced, independent research and to earn Honors in Anthropology upon graduation. The program is open to all Anthropology majors with a grade point average of 3.3 or higher overall, with 3.5 in Anthropology courses. Applications to the Honors Program are due in February of a student's junior year. More information and copies of the application are available on the department website at https://www.anthropology.uci.edu/undergrad/honors.php#honors

Professor Angela C. Jenks

ajenks@uci.edu | 949-824-3188

Office: SBSG 3304
Drop-in office hours: Weds 2:30-4pm

Course Materials

All course materials can be accessed through the course website at: https://canvas.eee.uci.edu/courses/19985

Image: Silicon Valley, by Emily Thiessen; http://www.emilythiessen.ca/index.html

GRADING

This course is focused on guiding you through the research process, and I encourage you to be open to experimenting, risk taking, and discovery. You will receive frequent feedback from the instructor, your peers, and your thesis advisor.

All assignments in this course will be graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. To achieve a satisfactory grade, assignments must:

- Be completed on time;
- Meet all specified requirements (including class activities & peer reviews).

Your final grade in the class will be determined by the instructor and through your own self-assessment.

RESOURCES

The following resources are RECOMMENDED for further reference:

Schensul, Stephen L., Jean J. Schensul, & Margaret D. LeCompte. 1999. *Essential Ethnographic Methods*. Walnut Creek: AltaMira Press.

Bernard, H. Russell. 2018. *Research Methods in Anthropology: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Rowman and Littlefield.

Emerson, Fretz and Shaw. 2011. *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. 2nd edition.

Lareau, Annette and Jeffrey Shultz. 1996. *Journeys Through Ethnography: Realistic Accounts of Fieldwork*. Westview Press.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) **In-Class Activities (15%)**

   This course will be conducted as a seminar workshop, and your attendance and active engagement are essential. A series of in-class exercises will give you an opportunity to practice various analytical techniques.

2) **Memos (60%)**

   The main goal of this course is for you to apply a variety of ethnographic methods to the collection of data for your honors thesis. A series of out-of-class assignments will guide you through this process. These are listed in the calendar below and on the course Canvas page.

3) **Peer Review (15%)**

   This class will include extensive peer review and discussion of each students' work. You are expected to engage in a close reading of your colleagues' work and to offer detailed, thoughtful feedback. You can expect to also receive such feedback from your colleagues.

4) **Self-Assessment and Reflection Letter (10%)**

   This final assignment asks you to reflect on the work you have accomplished so far in the Honors Program, to discuss your development as a researcher and critical thinker, and to assess your preparation for the next quarter, which focuses on data analysis.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Learning, research, and scholarship depend upon an environment of academic integrity and honesty. This environment can be maintained only when all participants recognize the importance of upholding the highest ethical standards.

Academic integrity is a requirement for passing this course and for graduating with Honors. All student work must be the work of the individual(s) receiving credit.

Violations of academic integrity will be referred to the Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct and will receive no course credit.

Please familiarize yourself with UCI's Academic Integrity Policy (https://aisc.uci.edu/policies/academic-integrity/index.php) and speak to the Professor if you have any questions about what is and is not acceptable in this course.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Your Thesis Advisor

Participation in the Honors Program offers you the opportunity to work closely with an Anthropology faculty mentor. Your thesis advisor is the main person who will determine what constitutes a satisfactory research proposal and an adequate outline, and **your final thesis must be approved by your advisor for you to graduate with Honors**. You should plan to communicate with your advisor often about your research project and your progress in the program.

Library

The UCI Library is an excellent research resource and offers a helpful online guide to Anthropology scholarship.

Writing Center

The UCI Center for Excellence in Writing and Communication offers in-person and online consultations for students at any stage of the writing process in any class.

ACCESS AND INCLUSION

I am committed to providing an inclusive learning environment and to giving every student the opportunity to succeed in this course. If at any point during the quarter you encounter an issue (physical, mental, familial, legal, etc.) that affects your ability to fully participate in the course, please do not hesitate to reach out to me so we may identify an appropriate solution. Please note that you are not required to disclose private or medical information.

I also encourage you to contact the UCI Disability Services Center. If you have a diagnosis, DSC can help you document your needs and create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through DSC, you can ensure appropriate accommodations without disclosing your condition or diagnosis to course instructors.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Student Health Center

The Student Health Center offers a comprehensive outpatient clinic with services available to all registered UCI students.

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center offers mental health support services for free to all UCI students. Services include urgent care, consultation, and counseling.

UCI CARE

UCI Campus Assault Resources & Education offers free and confidential support services to those impacted by sexual assault and relationship abuse/violence.

BASIC NEEDS

Food Pantry

The UCI food pantry offers free food and toiletry supplies on a confidential honor system. There are no requirements to access the pantry.

Emergency Meal Swipe Program

UCI students may apply for 10-20 emergency meal swipes per quarter at the University Dining Commons.

Basic Needs Hub & Coordinator

If you have difficulty accessing sufficient food to eat everyday or lack a safe and stable place to live, please visit the FRESH Basic Needs Hub or contact the UCI Basic Needs Coordinator, Andrea Gutierrez, at andrea.g@uci.edu

COURSE SCHEDULE

TOPIC	DATE	READINGS AND MATERIALS	ASSIGNMENTS
Week 0: Course Introduction	Thurs, 9/26	N/A	Schedule an appointment with your thesis advisor
Week 1: Entering the Field	Tues, 10/1	Schensul, Stephen L., Jean J. Schensul, and Margaret D. LeCompte. 1999. "Entering the Field." Pp. 69-90 in *Essential Ethnographic Methods*.	Project status report
	Thurs, 10/3	Gottlieb, Alma and Philip Graham. 1996. "Choosing a Host." Pp. 75-110 in *Journeys Through Ethnography: Realistic Accounts of Fieldwork.*	
Week 2: Participant Observation	Tues, 10/8	Schensul, Stephen L., Jean J. Schensul, and Margaret D. LeCompte. 1999. "Exploratory or Open-Ended Observation." Pp. 91-120 in *Essential Ethnographic Methods*.	
	Thurs, 10/10	Boellstorff et al. "Participant Observation in Virtual Worlds." Pp. 65-91 in *Ethnography and Virtual Worlds: A Handbook of Method*. In class workshop: Observation	
Week 3: Writing Field Notes	Tues, 10/15	Emerson, R., R. Fretz, and L. Shaw. 1995. Chapter 2 in *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*.	
	Thurs, 10/17	Sanjek, "A Vocabulary for Field Notes." Pp. 92-121 in *Fieldnotes*. In class workshop: Peer review of fieldnote samples	Fieldnotes
Week 4: Ethnographic Interviews	Tues, 10/22	Schensul, Stephen L., Jean J. Schensul, and Margaret D. LeCompte. 1999. "In-Depth, Open-Ended Interviewing" and "Semistructured Interviewing." Pp. 121-164 in *Essential Ethnographic Methods*. In class workshop: Interview practice	
	Thurs, 10/24	Michael V. Angrosino. 2002. "Conducting a Life History Interview." Pp. 3-44 in *Doing Cultural Anthropology*. In class workshop: Transcription	Interview transcript
Week 5: Ethnographic Surveys & Questionnaires	Tues, 10/29	Schensul, Stephen L., Jean J. Schensul, and Margaret D. LeCompte. 1999. "Structured Ethnographic Data Collection: Ethnographic Surveys." Pp. 165-200 in *Essential Ethnographic Methods*.	
	Thurs, 10/31	Schensul, Stephen L., Jean J. Schensul, and Margaret D. LeCompte. 1999. "Ethnographic Sampling." Pp. 231-270 in *Essential Ethnographic Methods*.	Sample survey

COURSE SCHEDULE

TOPIC	DATE	READINGS AND MATERIALS	ASSIGNMENTS
Week 6: Ethnographic Photography and Film	Tues, 11/5	Guindi, Fadwa El. 2000. "From Pictoralizing to Visual Anthropology." Pp. 459-513 in *Handbook of Methods in Cultural Anthropology*.	
	Thurs, 11/7	Bourgois and Schoenfield. 2009. Excerpts from *Righteous Dopefiend*.	Visualizations
Week 7: Archival and Other Data Collection Methods	Tues, 11/12	Boellstorff et al. "Other Data Collection Methods for Virtual Worlds Research." Pp. 113-128 in *Ethnography and Virtual Worlds: A Handbook of Method*.	
	Thurs, 11/14	Schensul, Stephen L., Jean J. Schensul, and Margaret D. LeCompte. 1999. "Using Archival and Secondary Data." Pp. 201-230 in *Essential Ethnographic Methods*. Brettell, Caroline B. 2000. "Fieldwork in the Archives: Methods and Sources in Historical Anthropology." Pp. 513-548 in *Handbook of Methods in Cultural Anthropology*.	Archival analysis
Week 8: Reliability and Validity	Tues, 11/19	Schensul, Stephen L., Jean J. Schensul, and Margaret D. LeCompte. 1999. "Validity and Reliability in Ethnographic Research." Pp. 271-290 in *Essential Ethnographic Methods*.	
	Thurs, 11/21	In class workshop: Validity checklist	Validity test
Week 9: Preliminary Reflections	Tues, 11/26	LeCompte, Margaret D. and Jean J. Schensul. 2013. "Analysis in the Field." Pp. 27-50 in *Analysis and Interpretation of Ethnographic Data*.	
	Thurs, 11/28	No Class: Thanksgiving Holiday	
Week 10: Common problems/adjustments	Tues, 12/3	In class workshop: Making adjustments	Preliminary reflections and adjustment plan
	Thurs, 12/5	N/A	
Final Exam	TBD	Self assessment and reflection letter due	