

Community Ethnography Essay #2: Exploring the Issue

This second draft asks you to begin the difficult work of paying attention to your community/organization/culture and what is going on within it. To complete this draft you will need to explore and analyze primary sources of your culture. This can include social media pages, opinion articles written by those who are part of the culture, videos, websites, observations. If you are observing at a physical location face to face out in the field your observations will take place there. At this point you **ARE NOT** doing interviews or using secondary sources. Your job is to figure out:

- Issues that are important to the community/organization/culture.
- Describe the types of people that make up the community/organization/culture
- Descriptions of artifacts that seem to be important to the group.
- Descriptions of customs/rituals that seem to be important to the group.

Once again write about what you suspect may be important here. It all may not appear in the final essay but it is crucial to write about what you are noticing and suspect to be important.

In addition to your writing you must include at least two images that are important and enhance the information you are conveying.

Crafting a Thesis: As with any essay you should develop a thesis statement that you prove throughout your essay with evidence and support. A thesis statement in this case might state what you notice to be important about this place and this group through their surroundings. What do you suspect about the group from their surroundings?

Audience: Your audience for this essay, as with each of the essays forming the ethnography, is two-fold: First, it is the people at the site you are studying and second, it is your peers as you will be sharing parts of this writing with them.

Brass Tacks: Your paper should be 4-5 pages long, not including images. You must include at least two images.

How I will Evaluate Your Essay

I am using something called "spec" grading to evaluate and assign a grade for your essay draft. The grade is the result of quantity--or just doing what I'm asking you to do--and to a lesser extent, quality. As explained in the syllabus, your work on your essay draft will determine 10% of your final grade for each one, 30% total.

In order to earn a "B" grade for that 10%

- You must complete the workshop draft and the revised draft that is turned into me.
- Respond to the prompt.
- Write an essay that is at least four pages . It can be over. It can't be under.

- Use examples from observations to explain/support your narrative that come from your field site (whether it is physical or digital)
- Have a thesis, introduction, and conclusion
- Show awareness of audience
- Include at least 2 images

In order to earn an "A" grade for that 10%

- You must complete the workshop draft and the revised draft that is turned into me.
- Respond to all parts of the prompt.
- Write an essay that is five pages .
- Use detailed examples from observations to explain/support your narrative that come from your field site (whether it is physical or digital)
- Have a well developed thesis, introduction, and conclusion
- Show keen awareness of audience
- Include at least 2 images that add meaning to the essay.

In order to earn a "C" grade for that 10%

- You must complete the workshop draft and the revised draft that is turned into me.
- Respond to some parts of the prompt.
- Write an essay that is less than four pages .
- Use some examples from observations to explain/support your narrative that come from your field site (whether it is physical or digital)
- Have a thesis, introduction, and conclusion
- Attempts to show awareness of audience

If you do not meet the requirements for a “C” paper, you will fail the paper for that 10% of your grade.