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Office Hours:
Prof. Gagné: TBA
TA : TBA
TA: TBA

NOTE: Please note that this section of SOAN 3070 is taught by an anthropologist. The main text for this course is written by a sociologist. This is supplemented with readings from anthropology; the class will include discussions of ethnography and other qualitative methods from anthropological and sociological perspectives.

Description

In this course, students will gain practical experience in designing a small research project and carrying it out. To this end, students will also learn more about qualitative and observational research and methods, including participant observation, ethnography, interviewing, focus groups, content analysis and the combination of various methods. Students will also be exposed to ethical questions regarding qualitative research methods and to issues related to writing and the politics of representations. Students will learn more about the use of qualitative research methods in projects carried abroad and at home. They will also learn about contemporary approaches such as ethnographies of the state or about ethnographies of digital media.

Objectives

- Analyze and evaluate quantitative and qualitative research in sociology and anthropology;
- Critically reflect upon the personal and disciplinary limits of knowledge and develop an appreciation for uncertainty and ambiguity within interpretation and analysis;
- Develop and practise intellectual curiosity, analytic, problem-solving, decision-making and listening skills;
- Demonstrate personal responsibility and initiative for current and on-going learning;
- Demonstrate personal, professional, and academic integrity and ethical reasoning.

Readings:

- One textbook
- One monograph
- Articles and book chapters posted on Courselink
Evaluation (tentative – this may change)
Exam 1: 15%
Statement of Intent for the Research Proposal: 10%
Interview Assignment: 15%
Exam 2: 15%
Book Review: 15% (10% for your paper + 5% for your presentation)
Research Proposal: 30% (25% for your paper + 5% for your presentation)