



Course Code & Title	LISS227 Ethnography Workshop		
Convenor(s)	Dr Charlotte Kühlbrandt, Primary Care & Public Health Sciences charlotte.kuhlbrandt@kcl.ac.uk		
Institution	LISS DTP	Department	School of Population Health & Environmental Sciences
Academic Year	2018-19	Term	Spring
Number of Sessions	3	Length of Session(s)	2 Hours
Day, Date	Start : End	Room Location	
Wednesday 20 March 2019	1500 – 1700	7.01 Addison House, Guy's Campus, SE1 9RT	
Wednesday 27 March 2019	1500 – 1700	7.01 Addison House, Guy's Campus, SE1 9RT	
Wednesday 03 April 2019	1500 – 1700	7.01 Addison House, Guy's Campus, SE1 9RT	
Enrolment Link:	https://goo.gl/7HNJ2Y (You will be prompted to log into SkillsForge)		

Course Description:

This is a practical workshop, designed to give students the opportunity to gain some experience of conducting ethnographic research prior to their fieldwork. During each of the sessions we will think about practical, ethical and political questions that ethnographers are confronted with. Students will have time to discuss their own research plans. Between sessions, they will engage in a limited period of participant observation in a place of their choice and try their hand at producing a short ethnographic text. By the end of the workshop, students will have had the chance to experience some of the rewards and challenges of conducting participant observation and ethnographic writing in a friendly environment. These workshops will also allow students to meet other interested, like-minded colleagues from across the DTP.

Course Outline:

Session 1: This will be an overview of the theory and practice of ethnography followed by a discussion of students' own plans for ethnographic research.

Preparation for Session 2: Students will be required to conduct 3h of uninterrupted participant observation of a space/environment/practice that is loosely related to their proposed area of research.

Session 2: Students will be asked to bring fieldnotes from their observations for discussion. We will reflect on their experiences, the type of knowledge that participant observation can produce, as well as practical, ethical and political challenges of ethnographic fieldwork.

Preparation for Session 3: Writing is a large part of "doing ethnography". Students will be asked to write up a short 'anecdote' from their personal experience which somehow speaks to their research interest.

Session 3: The third session will be dedicated to discussing ethnography as a methodology. We will think about the production of ethnographic knowledge, the politics and ethics of ethnography, including ethnographic representation, authority and positionality. We will cover current debates about short-term ethnography, the relationship between ethnography & anthropology, ethnography & fieldwork, and ethnography & writing. We will discuss the students' anecdotes, and how they felt about writing up personal experience for an audience.



Reading List:

Essential Reading:

Pink, S. and Morgan J. (2013) 'Short-Term Ethnography: Intense Routes to Knowing', *Symbolic Interaction* 36 (3): 351-361. doi.org/10.1002/symb.66

Recommended reading:

Emerson, R. (1995) *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. Chicago University Press

Scheper-Hughes, N. 'Ire in Ireland'. *Ethnography* 1(1): 117-140

Low, S.M. and Merry, S.E. (eds) (2010) 'Engaged anthropology: diversity and dilemmas', *Current Anthropology*, 51 (supplement 2): S203–S226.

Marcus, G. E. (1995) 'Ethnography in/of the world system: The emergence of Multi-Sited Ethnography', *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 24, pp. 95–117. doi: 10.1146/annurev.an.24.100195.000523.

Narayan, K. (1993) 'How native is a "native" anthropologist?', *American Anthropologist*, 95 (3): 19–32.

Said, E. (1989) 'Representing the colonized: anthropology's interlocutors', *Critical Inquiry*, 15 (2): 205–25.

Thieme, T. (2017) 'Navigating and Negotiating Ethnographies of Urban Hustle in Nairobi Slums', *City* 21 (2): 219-231.

Van Maanen J. (2011) *Tales of the Field: On Writing Ethnography*, Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press

Michael, M. (2012) 'Anecdote' in *Inventive Methods: the Happening of the Social*. Ed. By C. Lury and N. Wakeford, London and New York: Routledge, 25-36

Eligibility:

This course is suitable for students at an early stage of their PhD, particularly those who are planning to use ethnography, but have little practical experience or knowledge.

Pre course preparation:

Students will be asked to read two key texts (essential reading) on the reading list. They can e-mail me for PDFs of texts they cannot access. Most importantly, students are asked to make time for preparations between sessions (participant observation and anecdote writing).

Number of students: 25