

Next week - Wednesday September 19th:

Readings:

Silverman chapter 5 + 11 + 12 (course book)

Blomberg, J., J. Giacomi, A. Mosher and P. Swenton-Wall (1993): *Ethnographic Field Methods and Their Relation to Design*. In D. Schuler and A. Namioka (eds) *Participatory Design: Principles and Practices*. Hillsdale, N.J.: Lawrence Erlbaum. Pp. 123-156. (On the conduct of ethnography in IT-settings (Available at the Informatikbiblioteket. Handout).

Forsythe, D. (1999): *It's Just a Matter of Common Sense: Ethnography as invisible Work*. In *Journal of Computer Supported Cooperative Work*, vol 8, no. 1-2. Pp. 127-145 (Critical of do-it-yourself ethnography. A critique of treating fundamental methodological issues of fieldwork lightly). (Available online).

Optional:

Crang, M. and I. Cook (2007): *Interviewing*. In Crang, M. and I. Cook *Doing Ethnography*. Sage Publications. Pp. 51-89. (Generating material through interview).

Optional:

Geertz, C. (1972): *Deep play: Notes on the Balinese cockfight*. In Geertz, C.: *The interpretation of cultures*. New York: Basic Books. (A fundamental and famous piece of work for the interpretive turn in social sciences, besides an exemplary case study in its own right).

Second exercise - Interview – individual assignment for next week.

Interview Skills: Exploring Identity

This interview exercise continues your warming up and beginning to practice your fieldwork skills. Arrange an interview with someone you know -- a friend, family member, or professional acquaintance. This should be a one-hour, intensive, non-directive interview.

The topic is identity, which the person you interview can interpret in a variety of ways, and for which you can decide how to ask the questions. Put together a list of questions to ask. You may or may not end up asking all of these questions. Keep the interview as non-directive as possible and use the time to develop the interview as a special kind of conversation, letting the person's responses regarding his or her identity guide the focus. Listening and seeking to understand the person's expression and perspective are key to such an interview.

Do not tape record the interview; rather, use this as an opportunity to jot down key terms and phrases during the interview. Immediately afterward, write up a fuller description. The description of the interview should include:

Your name; a pseudonym (not the real name) for the respondent and her/his gender, age, and occupation; a brief description of the setting in which the

interview was conducted. Include your pre-prepared questions, and write up the conversation descriptively. Conclude with your reflections on the interview: the interactions and dynamics between yourself and the person interviewed, your analysis of topics explored, any other observations you have. 3-4 pages.

e-mail your fieldnotes by September 19th to both:

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NB!! Remember, first, to read and consider the DEPARTMENTAL GUIDELINES for written assignments:

<http://www.ifi.uio.no/studinf/skjemaer/declaration.pdf>