Ethnography Project Description: 30 points

The ethnography project will draw on anthropological theories covered in discussions and readings as well as your own ethnographic research interests in the NYC community. This project will allow you to develop your own ethnographic and analytic skills. I encourage you to explore your own cultural interests with this project and to incorporate them into your research question. You are not allowed to research your own cultural/ethnic group.

Guidelines

Ethnographies are different from standard research papers. They tend to be more reflexive – they include the ethnographer's experiences, biases, and interests – and they often have a narrative structure. They incorporate anecdotes, and interpret them with support from anthropological theory (relevant Literature) and demographic & statistical data. The arguments presented in ethnographies are supported by evidence from the author's fieldwork experience and/or from scholarly literature. Unsubstantiated opinions should not be included as fact. Acquaint yourself with your target population and record all your notes throughout the research process. While you should feel free to creatively explore the ethnographic genre, you are required to include the following in your ethnography project:

- **Part I - Context (10 points)** : Archival background data for target population (ethnic group) you will be researching **in NYC** D**o not** include demographic/historical data for the **country/nation of origin**. Include:

    1. **Demographic/Statistical Research** – Identify the ethnic group you will be researching, as well as the neighborhood in NYC where they reside. Using the US Census Bureau website, American Fact Finder (http://factfinder2.census.gov), as well as others, write a 1-2 page report that examines **RECENT** demographics of the group's community. (Note: You will need to enter a zip code at the website to locate the relevant data.) Consider the social and economic characteristics of the community and other important factors, e.g., race, ethnicity, housing, health, education, language. Provide **recent** statistical data in visual form (2-3 charts/graphs). Also, include data that may indicate recent issues with immigration, acculturation/assimilation experience, economic, educational, socio-political, etc. Include at least 2 source websites for stat/demo data in your reference page.

    2. **Relevant Related Literature:** Before commencing an ethnographic research study, Anthropologists conduct extensive archival research of any prior research studies conducted by other scholars involving the same population and/or cultural features/issues. You should identify and summarize no fewer than 2 relevant scholarly journal articles (from peer-reviewed scholarly academic journals) that focus on the population and cultural feature you are researching for your group.

- **Part II - Methodology (10 points):** A detailed explanation/description of at least 3 ethnographic methods used (participant observation, semi-structured interviews, kinship and social network charting, mapping, fieldnotes, etc.) and a summary of outcomes/findings for each of them. Include a detailed description of your methodology (Example: I employed **participant observation** at several sites (specify sites above) on _____(dates) and observed that_____. The Life History Interview of at least one informant is required for this project.

- **Part III - Critical Analysis & Research Outcomes (10 points):** Discuss the findings of your anthropological fieldwork, in the context of the relevant literature and statistical/demographic data. You may use the following prompts to guide your analysis:

    1. What did you learn about the life experiences of this NYC based ethnic/cultural group, including acculturation and/or assimilation to American culture? Are they successful? What unique challenges do they face?
    2. What makes this group's experience unique (discuss cultural differences, current socio-political context, race/ethnicity bias, economic considerations, etc.)?
    3. What did you learn about ethnicity in the USA that you didn't know before, from conducting this study? How has that information changed or supported your current perspective of racial/ethnic/cultural equality in the USA? Explain.
    4. Explain what makes your research relevant to the current research in this area?

Your analytical essay should be double-spaced, 1" margins, 12 pt. standard font, and including a bibliography/reference page. References should be done according to APA style.

Grading Policies: Late submissions will not be accepted

Grading Rubric for Ethnography: 30 points

	10 points	**7**	**5**	**0-1**
Background description & data for target population & field site.	Clearly describes the target population (inc. 3 stat./demo. charts/graphs), field site data (inc. maps & pics) & at least 2-3 relevant research sources.	Adequately describes the target population (inc. stat /demo charts and/or graphs), field site and 1-2 relevant lit. sources.	Provides a general description of target population, using at least one visual chart/ graph &/or 1 journal article.	Not submitted or Incomplete
Description & outcomes of ethnographic methods used (Life History interview +2).	Clearly describes at least 3-4 methods used in their ethnographic research and provides concise outcomes/summaries for each.	Explains at least 2 methods used in ethnographic research and provides outcomes for each.	Explains at least 1 method used in research and/or provides vague and/or unsubstantiated outcomes.	Not submitted or Incomplete
Critical Analysis incorporating archival research, relevant literature & fieldwork outcomes	Critically analyzes research outcomes, seamlessly integrating a 2-4 lit. references archival/demographic data & ethnographic research outcomes from at least 3 distinct ethnographic methods.	Adequately analyzes research outcomes, integrating a min. of 1-2 lit. references, archival/ demographic data & ethnographic research outcomes from at least 2 distinct ethnographic methods.	Analyzes research outcomes, integrating a min. of 1 lit. references, stat/ demographic data and/or ethnographic research outcomes from at least 1 distinct ethnographic method.	Not submitted or Incomplete
Written communication: Spelling, grammar & organizational format	Uses correct APA formatting for referencing. Very minimal grammar & spelling errors. Organizes content in parts based on Table of Contents. Includes bibliography	Uses correct APA format. Minimal grammar & spelling errors. Includes Table of Contents and bibliography	Paper is adequately formatted. Contains substantial grammar and/or spelling errors. May or may not include bibliography.	Illegible and/or bibliography not submitted