

Dr. Lauren Sneyd

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Course 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 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 consider 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.

Learning Outcomes

- 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 practice 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.

Text and readings

- One textbook
- One monograph
- Articles and book chapters posted on Courselink

Evaluation

Observational Exam: 15%

Statement of Intent for the Research Proposal: 10%

Interview Assignment: 25%

Book Review: 20% (15% for your paper + 5% for your presentation)

Research Proposal: 30% (25% for your paper + 5% for your presentation)