

Project Two

****To be included in your ePortfolio

Assignment Background: In *Fieldworking* (p. 55-88) and in Kahn's and Blair's excerpts we began thinking about the difference between the ethnography (the text) and ethnography (the research method). And more specifically, we began to think about the role of notetaking, of observation, and of interviews in gathering data for your ethnography. For this project, you are extending some of the thinking about place and culture that you began in project one. How?

The Assignment: For the second assignment, you will select a place and/or a culture's members to observe. [Note: You can select one of the places or cultures that you mapped in project one, but that is not a requirement]. While observing, take vigorous notes. Your notes can include multiple media: the written word, sound files, video files, and images. Your notes can include multiple genres: interviews (email, audio, video, and/or transcriptions), descriptions, time logs, time lapsed videos, maps, quotations, stories, questions, reflections, personal responses, specific facts, sensory impressions (records of sound, smell, taste, etc.). When you have completed your notes, post those to your Research ePortfolio.

What I am looking for: I am looking two texts: your notes and a reflection.

Notes

To submit your notes, scan your handwriting and embed/attach images, audio, video, and typewritten documents. Regarding the arrangement or the organization of your notes, we will focus on the arrangement of your ePortfolio before you submit it at the end of March. That is to say that you will get feedback on your ePortfolio before you submit it.

But for the purposes of this project, try to arrange your notes in a meaningful way. That might mean arranging your notes based on genre, based on the days you observed, or based on where you observed. You might also try a different kind of arrangement strategy: moving from the larger culture to specific members or (inductively) moving from specific members to a larger culture. The key to arranging your notes is making sure you can make sense of them two months from now.

Reflection

For the second part of the project, I am looking for one page single-spaced that documents what you learned through your observations. Here are some questions to help you think about what you learned through your observations: *What did you learn about a particular culture and/or multiple cultures? What did you learn about a particular place and/or multiple places? What did you learn about FSU generally? What did you learn about the relationship between FSU and Tallahassee? What did you learn about the relationships between place and culture? Between cultures and its members?* You may also use this document as a way to generate questions or ideas that you might address in your research paper or in another section of the research ePortfolio.

If it were my project: I would use this opportunity to learn something about relationships between a culture, its members, and the places that the culture occupies. I would take full advantage of the technologies I have at my disposal, i.e. my smartphone. That's because with my smartphone, I have a camera, a video recorder, and an audio recorder. I would set up interviews

with people. And most of all, I would try to take notes that would leave me open to think about FSU's cultures' online communities/online presence, to think about FSU's history, and to think about FSU's culture from an academic (therefore researchable) perspective.