

Ethnography of Education Paper Guidelines and Rubric

The paper must be at least 5 double-spaced pages, Times, 12-point font, 1-inch margins, not including References or Appendix.

Assignment Description:

The ethnographic paper will be based on first-hand observations at an educational setting. The paper must include an interview with an educator as well as any relevant artifacts. The ethnographic paper must explore a specific education problem, e.g., bilingual education policies, community-college enrollment and completion, student loan debt, etc.

Ethnography must include the following sections:

1. INTRODUCTION. Outline of paper. **(10 points)**
 - a. Begin your paper with a *vignette* (a short descriptive story about a field work experience) and then show how this story informs/illustrates your research question or research focus.
2. RESEARCH QUESTION **(10 points)**
 - a. Define your guiding research question, stating why this question is important for practical and/or theoretical reasons.
3. METHODOLOGY **(20 points)**
 - a. Write up your methodology. This is a description of what you did during your research and how you did it. Include your ethnographic method, such as participant observations or interviews, and why you chose this method. Data should also be included when putting the paper together, such as how many times you visited a particular site and how many people you interviewed.
4. FINDINGS **(25 points)**
 - a. Report your findings. Use evidence taken directly from your research observation and interview notes to report your findings and to back up any assertions you make. Be selective with your material by only including relevant information to prevent your paper from becoming trivial or floating off-topic.
5. ANALYSIS **(20 points)**
 - a. Interpret and analyze your findings. Use at least **3 course readings** and **5 outside reading** to support your analysis.
6. CONCLUSION **(10 points)**
 - a. Provide the answer(s) to your research question. Describe the significance of your search, both personal and general
7. REFERENCES **(5 points)**
8. Mechanics **(5 points)**
9. Total Points **(100 points)**

Element	Description	Total Points	Your Score
Introduction	Outline of paper. Vignette (short narrative) and connection to research question.	10	
Research Question	Define your guiding research question, stating why this question is important for personal, practical and/or theoretical reasons. Goal: clear and concise.	10	
Methodology	Write up your methodology. This is a description of what you did during your research and how you did it. Include your ethnographic method, such as participant observations or interviews, and why you chose this method. Data should also be included when putting the paper together, such as how many times you visited a particular site and how many people you interviewed. Goal: detailed and descriptive.	20	
Findings	Report your findings. Use evidence taken directly from your research field notes (or interview notes) to report your findings and to back up any assertions you make. Be selective with your material by only including relevant information to prevent your paper from becoming trivial or floating off-topic. Goal: Focused, well-supported and engaging.	25	
Analysis	Interpret and analyze your findings, drawing on two course readings and one outside reading. Goal: analytical and well-supported.	20	
Conclusion	Provide the answer(s) to your research question. Describe the significance of your search, both personal and general. Goal: clear, concise, and inspirational.	5	
Mechanics	Goal: Paper is free of grammatical errors and typos. Paper is concisely and clearly written. Paper is coherent and easy to follow.	5	
References /Appendix	Goal: Paper includes references and proper in-text citation (AAA or APA style)/Interview transcript and guide in appendix	5	
	Total All Elements	100	