Amsterdam Business Research Institute

Ethnography

Course Manual

Academic year 2019- 2020
Course title: Ethnography

Coordinator(s): Prof. Ruthanne Huising, PhD

Lecturer(s): Prof. Ruthanne Huising, PhD

Study period: September 2019 – October 2019

ECTS: 6 ECTS

Tuition: € 600

Target Groups: The course Ethnography is open to PhD candidates and research master students from the VU and other Dutch and international universities engaged in research projects broadly related to business and management or organization studies. This is an advanced methods course that assumes basic prior understanding of business and management or organization studies, and basic understanding of qualitative research methods.

Course goals: After the successful completion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Understand their ethical responsibilities in conducting fieldwork and the processes to be used to protect the people and communities they study.
• Record rich, detailed field notes and design and conduct rich interviews.
• Code and analyze field notes and interview transcripts.
• Work from raw empirical findings to analytical interpretations to theoretical contributions
• Navigate the review and publishing process.

Course content: This is an advanced course on the craft of ethnography. We will explore the process of getting into the field, gathering data, and organizing and analyzing data to identify and theorize patterns in organizational life. In the last session we will discuss publishing so that you get a sense of the end of the line. However, the focus will be on the hard work of getting to that point. This is a hands-on course which will require that you practice the main skills required of ethnographers. We will collect new data and work with existing data.

Course design: The course consists of 9 interactive sessions (24 hours in total) distributed over 3 weeks (weeks of September 9th, September 23rd, October 7th). You will be expected to read extensively before and during the course, and complete assignments throughout the course period.
Form of tuition  The estimated time participants spend on study activities is:

Attending interactive sessions  24 hours
Reading preparations  60 hours
Work on assignments  66 hours
Total  168 hours (6 ECTS)

Assessment  Students will be assessed based on:

• Class participation
• 4 individual assignments
• 1 group assignment

Course structure  Date  Time  Room

September 10, 2019  09:00 – 12:00  t.b.a.
September 11, 2019  09:00 – 12:00  t.b.a.
September 24, 2019  09:00 – 12:00  t.b.a.
September 25, 2019  09:00 – 12:00  t.b.a.
October 8, 2019  09:00 – 12:00  t.b.a.
October 9, 2019  09:00 – 12:00  t.b.a.

Literature  A list of articles will be announced via the course website on Canvas.