

ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELD TECHNIQUES

BIOL 428

Frostburg State University

Spring Semester 2014

3 credits

Dr. Brosi

Contact Information

205 Compton Hall

301-687-4213, slbrosi@frostburg.edu

If I am unavailable please contact Ms. Bebe Elrick, (201B Compton): 301-687-4166

Office Hours

Tuesday 8-9:30 am

Wednesday 8-9:30 am

Thursday 8-9 am

Friday 8-9 am

Additional times are available by appointment.

Course Hours

Tuesday, 9:30-12:30 pm, Compton Hall 316

Core Textbooks

Anderson, E.N., D.M. Pearsall, E.S. Hann, and N.J. Turner (Editors), 2011, *Ethnobiology*, Wiley-Blackwell, Hoboken, NJ, 399p.

Galman, S.C., 2007, *Shane, the Lone Ethnographer, A Beginner's Guide to Ethnography*, AltaMira Press, Lanham, MD, 112p.

Galman, S.C., 2013, *The Good, The Bad, and the Data, Shane, the Lone Ethnographer's Basic Guide to Qualitative Data Analysis*, 104p.

Additional reading material will be made available online and through photocopies.

Course Description

Practical training and experience using ethnographic field methods. Introduction to methods ethnographers use including mapping, unobtrusive observation, participant observation, ethnographic and life history interviewing, design and implementation of surveys and questionnaires, and an introduction to participatory research methodologies. A project component is included in the course. Ethnobotany Capstone.

Course Objectives

- To describe and explain principles, ethics, and techniques of research involving humans
- To become certified to complete research through the Institutional Review Board
- To experience the process of science with a specific ethnography projects
- To create and evaluate elements within the process of science including: peer-review, proposal writing, abstract writing, and scientific presentations
- To refine your personal resume, portfolio, and to practice job applications

Format for lectures:

This is the general format for course time and will be modified throughout the semester as needed. Generally online material will be focused on incorporating core content knowledge and class time will be focused on competency development. This is a 400-level, majors-only, capstone course. It is expected that you are self-motivated and complete extensive work outside of the course.

Tuesdays

- 9:30 - 9:35 am Course starts 9:30am sharp!
5-minute reading quiz, if you are late you will be unable to take the quiz
some reading quizzes are online and due *prior* to attending class
most assignments are online and due prior to attending class
- 9:35 - 10:00 am Lecture and overview of new topic and details, information on content knowledge
- 10:00- 10:30 am Class wide discussion of issues, areas of concern
- 10:30- 11:00 am Project work, specific designation of goals for Thursdays class
- 11:00am-12:30 pm Peer-review and/or presentation to class

Peer-review will generally take place on Tuesday late. You will need to electronically submit your materials on blackboard and bring a laptop for the review process. You will work with a member of another group on the material for 10 minutes. Then you will switch to work on the reviewers materials. You will need to incorporate suggestions from the group and repost your assignment by the next class.

Bring your textbooks, working drafts, laptop, and project notebook to every lab, failure to do so will result in a reduction on your project grade. Arrive to class on time, 9:30am, and plan to stay for the full period of the class, until 12:30 pm. University policy prohibits the use of food or beverage inside of the lab.

Grading Policy

Final grades will be determined by averaging quizzes, exams, projects, class attendance and participation, and a comprehensive final. Letter grades will be based on a standard scale:

A = 90.000-100%

B = 80.000-89.999%

C=70.000-79.999%

D=60.000-69.999%

F= 59.999, Neither the CS nor the NC are options for this course.

Inclement Weather

Lecture will be cancelled only if FSU is officially closed. Even if lecture is canceled online assignments are still required to be completed and submitted.

150 points possible

- **Reading Quizzes: 75 pts** (15 quizzes 5 pt. each)
- **Assignments: 15 pts.**
 - **Assessments**(6 pts. total)
 - 1 pt. **RISC** pre-course survey (due Feb. 4th @ 9:30am)
 - 1 pt. pre and post content tests (due periodically)
 - 1 pt. Ethnobotany Program Assessment (due Feb. 4th @ 9:30am)
 - 1 pts. **NIH** certification (due Feb. 4th @ 9:30am)
 - 1 pt. **RISC** post-course survey (due May 6th)
 - 1 pts. Ethnobotany Program Assessment Exam (due May 6th)
 - Assignments from, The Good, The Bad, & The Data (9 pts. total), HW1-9
- **Project: 50 pts.**
 - 10 pts. IRB
 - 1 pt. Objectives and Hypotheses Feb. 11th
 - 1 pt. Participant Selection, Procedures, Risks & Ben. Feb. 11th
 - 1 pts. Consent Form and Interview Questions Feb. 18th
 - 7 pts. IRB Application Submission
 - 2 pts. to Dr. Brosi Feb. 18th
 - 5 pts. Office of Research Feb. 25th
 - 10 pts. Abstract Submissions
 - 1 pt. summary to Dr. Keller, CLAS undergrad. **Feb. 24th**
 - 5 pts. abstract to Focus Frostburg March 1st
 - 4 pts. abstract to Dr. Keller, CLAS undergrad. **April 21st**
 - 10 pts. Grant Submissions
 - 2 pts. for peer-review Feb. 21st
 - 3 pts. to Dr. Brosi Feb. 23rd
 - 5 pts. for two submissions
 - Office of Research & Sponsored Programs **March 7th**
<http://www.frostburg.edu/admin/orsp/awards-and-development/#undergradresearch>
 - FSU Foundation Grants **March 9th**
<http://www.frostburg.edu/foundation/forms/opportunity-grant-request/>
 - Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research program **March 15th**
<http://www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/>
 - 20 pts. Presentations & Posters (needs to include photographs of activity which will be completed by April 8th)
 - 2 pts. presentation peer-review in class April 10th
 - 8 pts. presentation Focus Frostburg mid-April
 - 2 pts. peer-review poster April 22nd
 - 8 pts. CLAS Undergraduate Research Symposium May 4th
- **Capstone: 10 pts.**
 - 1 pts. Resume
 - 1 pt. reference request
 - 1 pt. application
 - 2 pts. portfolio
 - 5 pts. final exam May 19th, 11:15am-1:45pm

Reading Quizzes

It is essential that you read the assigned materials prior to coming to class. Reading quizzes will be administered to determine your comprehension of the assigned materials. Many reading quizzes will be online and due prior to coming to class. The reading quizzes will vary but typically are around 5 pts. each. There will be a total of 15 reading quizzes throughout the semester.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation is required during all lectures, outside course activities, and fieldtrips. Be sure to read all assignments and be prepared to summarize the material. There will be quizzes on the reading throughout the semester. One unexcused absence will not impact your grade. Two unexcused absences in lecture and will lower your final average by one letter grade. Three unexcused absences in lecture will lower your final average by two letter grades, four by three, etc. An absence includes leaving early. Tardiness will not be permitted and will result in being unable to take the reading quizzes. If a student is participating in co- and extracurricular activities, or has an excused absence, I must be notified within one week to arrange make-up assignments.

Assignment Submission

The assignments must be turned in electronically by 9:30am on the day it is due. I strongly suggest that you turn in the assignments before their due date to avoid last-minute, unexpected delays such as technical computer problems. Upload your assignment into the assignment section for the course. Before you upload your assignment save the file in the following format: Lastname_ProjectTitle. (For example, Brosi_FocusFrostburg.) If a student is participating in co- and extracurricular activities, or has an excused absence, I must be notified within one week to arrange make-up assignments. **Late and incomplete assignments will not be accepted.** Missing assignments will result in a failing grade for that particular assignment.

Class Policies

There will be no cell phones on the desk or in class or lab. There will be no use of laptops except for projects unless prior consent is obtained for special circumstances. You may not eat food or use tobacco products in class or labs.

Confidentiality Statement

Faculty and staff in the state of Maryland at USM institutions (including Frostburg State University) are obligated to follow the State's reporting requirements for suspected child abuse or neglect. Mandated reporters are persons who, in the course of their work, may be privy to information that they are required to report to the appropriate enforcement agency. Faculty and staff are mandated reporters, and must report any disclosure of suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse, whether or not the suspected incident was previously reported. Incidences must be reported even if they learn about the maltreatment for the first time from an adult victim who was under the age of 18 when the incident occurred. Therefore, any disclosure (written or verbal) by

students or prospective students of suspected incidents of child abuse and/or neglect will be immediately reported to the appropriate authorities.

Academic honesty and misbehavior

The statement on academic dishonesty in the Pathfinder is in effect. Cheating in any capacity in this course will not be tolerated. If cheating or plagiarism is encountered, the instructor may administer a grade of zero or an F in the class depending on the severity of the incident. Students are expected to abide by the University's Code of Student Conduct and disruptive behavior in the classroom may result in an administrative withdraw.

Accommodations for students with disabilities

Frostburg State University is committed to providing equal educational opportunities for students with documented disabilities. Students who require disability services or reasonable accommodations must identify themselves as having a disability and provide current diagnostic documentation to Disability Support Services. All information is confidential. Please call 4483 or visit 150 Pullen Hall for more information.

#	Date	Description	Due
Part 1: Introduction to Research with Human Participants			
1	Jan. 28	Syllabus distributed, projects described, pre-tests	
2	Feb. 4	Library instruction, APA style, elements of writing, peer-reviewed literature	RQ1, NIH certificate
3	Feb. 11	Peer-review process, review of objectives & hypotheses, group work on IRB application, Etic and Emic perspectives, participant selection, procedures, risks and benefits, Consent Forms, Interview Questions	RQ2, Draft 1: Objectives & Hypothesis, Draft 1: IRB
4	Feb. 18	Peer-review of Draft 1 of grant, group work on grant refinement, Draft 2 due to Dr. Brosi by 12:30 pm	RQ3, Submit IRB, Draft 1: Grant (9:30), Draft 2 (12:30), <i>submission of CLAS URS</i>
5	Feb. 25	Peer-review of Draft 3 or grant, grant refinement and submission of final draft to Dr. Brosi by 12:30 pm	RQ4, Draft 3 (9:30), Final Draft (12:30)
Part 2: The Process of Science & Part 3: Writing Research Grants			
6	Mar. 4	Grant submissions with modifications from Dr. Brosi incorporated	Submissions of Grants
7	Mar. 11	Grant work	
8	Mar. 18	<i>Spring Break: No Classes</i>	
9	Mar. 25	Abstracts, grants, and peer-evaluations	Submissions, evaluations
Part 4: Scientific Presentations: Posters & PowerPoints			
10	Apr. 1	Homework 1-9 due these weeks	
11	Apr. 8		
12	Apr. 15		
13	Apr. 22		
Part 5: Capstone			
14	Apr. 29	Resume, Reference Request, Portfolio & Application	
15	May 6	Assessment Exam	Peer evaluation 3, RISC Post-Test
16	May 13	No class, Society for Economic Botany Presentation	
17	May 19	Final Exam, 11:15am-1:45pm	

This course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced by the instructor may be necessary.

#	Date	Reading	Page Numbers
Part 1: Introduction to Research with Human Participants			
1	Jan. 28	RQ1, Galman, 2007, Chpt. 1-4	1-40
2	Feb. 4	RQ2, Galman, 2007, Chpt. 5-to end	41-107
3	Feb. 11	RQ3, Anderson et al., Chpt. 1: Overview RQ4, Chpt. 2, History	1-26
4	Feb. 18	RQ5, Chpt. 3, Ethics in Ethnobiology	27-50
		RQ6, Chpt. 4, From Researcher to Partner	65-82
Part 2: The Process of Science & Part 3: Writing Research Grants			
5	Feb. 25	<i>Work on grants, no reading assigned</i>	
6	Mar. 4	<i>Work on grants, no reading assigned</i>	
7	Mar. 11	<i>Work on grants, no reading assigned</i>	
8	Mar. 18	<i>Spring Break: No Classes</i>	
9	Mar. 25	RQ7, Galman, 2013, Chpts. 1-5	1-60
Part 4: Scientific Presentations: Posters & Powerpoints			
10	Apr. 1	RQ8, Galman, 2013, Chpts. 6-10	61-100
11	Apr. 8	RQ9, Chpt. 9 Ethnobotany: people-plant	133-148
		RQ10, Chpt. 14 Ethnoecological Approaches	231-247
12	Apr. 15	RQ11, Chpt. 16 Ethnoecology and Landscapes	267-284
		RQ12, Chpt. 17 Trad. Resource & Env. Mang.	285-304
		RQ13, Chpt. 18 Ethnobiology & Agroecology	305-318
13	Apr. 22	RQ14, Chpt. 20 Cognitive Studies	335-349
		RQ15, Chpt. 22 Learning Ethnobiology	371-387
Part 5: Capstone			
14	Apr. 29	Resume, Reference Request, Portfolio, & Application	
15	May 6	Assessment Exam, RISC Post-Test	
16	May 13	No class, SEB Presentation	
	May 19 th	FINAL EXAM 11:15am-1:45pm, Compton 316	cumulative