



# ETHNOGRAPHIC RESEARCH METHODS

**RESA:** Research School for Swedish Anthropology

**PhD course open to:** All PhD students in Anthropology or related disciplines

**Course title:** Ethnographic Research Methods

**Dates:** 9 November – 4 December 2015

**Location:** Department of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University

**Course coordinator/Teaching:** Beppe Karlsson and several guest lecturers

**ECTS:** 7.5 credits

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## **Schedule:**

9 Nov. 10.00-12.00, room B658

Introduction: *Outline of Ethnographic Research Designs.*

- Read: Introduction in Borneman & Hammoudi, and articles by Goffman, Bourdieu, Clifford, Favret-Saada and Ingold.
- Assignment: Prepare a three minute presentation of your PhD project with focus on problem, theory and method.

9 Nov. 15.00-17.00, room B600

Guest lecture with Dolly Kikon on *research in violent settings.*

- Read: TBA.

10 Nov. 10.00-12.00, room B600

Guest lecture with TBA. *Theory in the field.*

- Read: Puddephatt et al. and article by Swedberg.

11 Nov. 10.00-12.00, room B658

Seminar about interviewing.

- Assignment: Prepare an interview schedule for a semi-structured interview.
- Read: Introduction and chapters 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12 in ed. Skinner.

11 Nov. 13.00-15.00, room B658

Guest lecture. *An Economist Doing Ethnography* with Mikael Holmqvist on his fieldwork in Djursholm.

12 Nov. 10.00-12.00, room B600

Guest lecture with TBA who will talk about the use of statistics in qualitative research.

- Read: Greene in ed. Skinner.

12 Nov. 13.00-15.00

Visual Techniques in the field, seminar with TBA.

13 Nov. 10.00-12.00, room B600

Multi-sited Fieldwork – Johan Lindquist will talk about his work on migration routes.

- Read: Hannerz (article) and Hage (article).

13 Nov. 13.00-15.00, room B600

Introduction to anthropological research on nuclear issues and information about the research site; Barsebäck nuclear plant.

- Read: The monograph by Zonabend (only 130pp) and article by Karlsson.

16 – 20 Nov.

Excursion/Field trip – a pilot study of Barsebäck nuclear plant<sup>1</sup>.

Monday evening we will have a seminar on the art of writing fieldnotes.

- Read: The book *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*.

4 Dec.

Submission of paper.

### Examination:

Submission of an essay or paper, roughly 8 pages or 3,000-3,500 words long (based on field data and course readings). The paper will be graded as pass or not-pass. Active participation in seminars and in the excursion is a further requirement to pass the course.

### Literature:

#### Articles (available to download through SUB):

- Bourdieu, P. (2003) "Participant Objectification", *JRAI*, 9(2):281-294.
- Clifford, J. (1983) "On Ethnographic Authority", in *Representations*, 2:118-146.
- Favret-Saada, J. (1990) "About Participation", in *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry*, 14(2):189-199.
- Goffman, E. (1989) "On Fieldwork", *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 18(123).
- Hage, H. (2005) "A not so multi-sited ethnography of a not so imagined community", in *Anthropological Theory*, 5(4):463-475.
- Hannerz, U. (2003) Being there ... and there ... and there! Reflections on Multi-sited ethnography", in *Ethnography*, 4(2):201-216.
- Swedberg, R. (2012) "Theorizing in Sociology and Social Science", in *Theory and Society*, 41:1-40.

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1 Departure Monday 16 Nov., 9.00 in the morning. We will stay in a hostel close to the Barsebäck plant. The department hope to be able to cover the costs for travel and accommodation (including breakfast), but not for other meals during the excursion. This is still pending.

**Book chapters:**

- Borneman, J and A. Hammoudi, eds. (2009) *Being There: The Fieldwork Encounter and the Making of Truth*, Berkeley: University of California Press. (Introduction pp. 1-24, and Lisa Stevenson “The Suicidal Wound and Fieldwork among Canadian Inuit”, pp. 55-76 and Sally Falk Moore “Encounter and Suspicion in Tanzania”, pp. 151-182).
- Ingold, T. (2011) “Drawing Together: doing, observing, describing”, in *Being Alive*, London & New York: Routledge. pp. 220-228.
- Karlsson, B. G. (2012) “Nuclear estrangement from Chernobyl to India”, in eds. Hornborg et al., *Ecology and Power*: London & New York: Routledge.
- Puddephatt, A. J. et al eds. (2009) *Ethnographies Revisited: Constructing theory in the field*, New York & London: Routledge. (Introduction and chapters by C.R. Sanders pp. 63-76, L. Wacquant pp. 137-151, D.F. Chambliss pp. 253-262 and D.R. Loseke pp. 263-276.)
- Skinner, J. ed. (2012) *The Interview: An Ethnographic Approach*, London: Berg (Introduction and selected chapters).

**Monograph:**

- Zonabend, F. (1993) *The Nuclear Peninsula*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (available as e-book at SUB).

**Reference book:**

- Emerson, R. M. et al (1995) *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*, Chicago & London: The University of Chicago Press.

A copy of the books will be kept at the Anthro dept for those who follow the course; a marked shelf in the CEIFO seminar room/library. The books are for in-house use only; articles by Karlsson and Ingold will be distributed.