

ANTHROPOLOGY 3411

JULIE PELLETIER, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES
Office Hours: TTh 2:30-3:30
W 10:30-11:30 am

FALL 2007

116B IMHOLTE x6214
pelletja@morris.umn.edu
IH 115, 10:00-11:40 am

Required Materials:

Research Methods in Anthropology, 4th Edition, H. R. Bernard

Ethnoquest Version 3.0, Berdan, Stark, and Van Loon

Doing Cultural Anthropology, 2nd Edition, M. V. Angrosino

Additional readings by Smith and Wolf available through E-reserve at Briggs Library

SEMINAR IN ANTHROPOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

The goals of this class involve development of your understanding of and ability to utilize anthropological methods in the conduct of human subjects research. The value of qualitative research methods can be seen in their widespread adoption by other disciplines, including education, human resource management, economics, political science, environmental studies, marketing, and more. Unfortunately, the methodology of anthropology has been poorly understood and/or applied in many studies – while one semester is not adequate time to make us all “experts,” you will leave this class with knowledge and experience that will prove valuable to you in future academic and career goals. In addition and perhaps more importantly, you will gain insight into the complexities of conducting ethical human research. Be prepared to work hard and to learn!

**Those students going on to Anth 4993 or Anth 4901 in Spring, 2008
must meet with me individually by September 6.**

Requirements:

READING: Read all materials, taking notes or marking text as required. Bring your reading material, in hard copy, with you to class. You will hand in reading notes every class for which readings are due. Reading notes, unlike all other assignments, do not have to be typed and are meant to keep you on task with reading. (Reading notes worth 10 % of course grade)

HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH TRAINING: You will complete basic level training for human subjects protection. This will include learning about informed consent, acceptable recruiting strategies, and filling out an IRB application. For those preparing their Senior Research Project in Anthropology, the application will be submitted to the IRB – see note at the end of the syllabus for more on this. (20% of course grade)

MINI PROJECTS: You will gain valuable experience in research design by working through a variety of mini projects. These are drawn from the Angrosino text. You will select 3 projects from the following options: Ch. 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 13 (consult with me on this one to make sure you aren't going outside of the guidelines listed below), 14, and 15. I expect you to “mix it up” so don't choose two mini-projects that are computer-oriented, for example. (each worth 10 % for a total of 30% of course grade)

Institutional Guidelines for conducting research as part of this class:

3.6 Class Protocols for Research Methods Courses (excerpts from the IRB web page)

The Course Protocol adheres to the following terms:

- the instructor will direct students to complete basic level training for human rights protection;
- student projects will be reviewed by course faculty;
- students will draw their research subjects from the student population;
- student projects will not involve any personal, sensitive, or incriminating topics or questions that could place subjects at risk;
- the projects will not involve physically or psychologically invasive contact with the subjects.

RESEARCH PROJECT DESIGN: You will design a significant anthropological research project. Those students preparing for their senior research in Anthropology will be designing that specific project. Others may choose a real or hypothetical project. The actual data gathering for this assignment will not be conducted this semester but all other aspects will be prepared. Your project design will be graded on its coherence, clarity, rigor, and ethical standards – I will expect your project to reflect a sophisticated understanding of anthropological research methodology. (worth 40% of course grade)

PARTICIPATION: Your participation is a vital element of this course, and our course dialogue will emphasize respect for every student’s voice. Come prepared with questions, comments, analysis, criticisms, and observations. In-class workshops will provide peer- and professor-feedback on your research project design – come prepared with all necessary materials.

ATTENDANCE: You are expected but not required to attend class every day. Attendance is taken at the start of class for my records. Class attendance has been directly correlated with academic success in numerous studies.

ACCESSIBILITY: Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with physical, sensory, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. Contact me for further information.

COURSE GRADE:		Grade Scale		
Research Design Project	40%	100-94 A	83-80 B-	67-64 D+
Mini Projects	30% (10% each)	93-91 A-	79-76 C+	63-60 D
IRB Training & Application	20%	90-88 B+	75-72 C	0-59 F
Reading Notes	10%	87-84 B	71-68 C-	

	READINGS-COURSE CONTENT	DUE DATES
08-30	Course Introduction; AAA Statements of Ethics: Principles of Professional Responsibility ; American Anthropological Association Statement on Ethnography and Institutional Review Boards ; Briefing Paper on Informed Consent .	
09-04	Preface - Ch. 3, Bernard	
09-06		
09-11	Ch. 4 - 5, Bernard (Deadline for Anth Seniors to meet with me)	
	Wednesday, September 12: Last Day to Drop Without a "W" Grade*	
09-13	Human Subjects Training - meet in IH 11. Complete on your own. No notes req.	
09-18	Intro., Ch. 3, 7 & 10 from Smith's Decolonizing Methodologies	
09-20	Preface, Ch. 1 & 11 from Wolf's Feminist Dilemmas in Fieldwork	
09-25	Ch. 1 - 4, Angrosino	
09-27	Ch. 5 - 9, Angrosino	
10-02	Ch. 10 - 15, Angrosino	
10-04	Ch. 6 & 8, Bernard	
10-09	Ch. 9 - 11, Bernard	
10-11	Ch. 12 - 13, Bernard	
10-16	Ch. 14 - 15, Bernard	Human Sub. Training Due
10-18	IRB application training - meet in IH 11.	Mini Project 1 Due

10-23	FALL BREAK	
10-25	Research workshop - 10 copies of preliminary outline, typed. (should be 1 page	
10-30	Individual mentoring in IH 116B; sign up for a 20 minute block and arrive	
11-01	Individual mentoring.	
	Wednesday, November 2: Last Day to Drop With a "W" Grade*	
11-06	AAA codes of ethics (listed in 8/30 entry - go to www.aaanet.org) Notes req.	
11-08	Ethnoquest - bring program & earphones to IH 11 Computer Lab. Complete on your own.	IRB Application Due 4:30pm in SS Office, 1 st
11-13	Ethnoquest discussion - bring program to IH 11. Notes req.	
11-15	Research Design workshop. Come prepared with 10 copies of detailed outline. (2 pages)	
	Monday, November 19 IRB Application Submission Deadline 430 pm at UM **	
11-20	Individual mentoring.	Mini Project 2 Due
11-22	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
11-27	Research Design workshop. Bring 4 copies of rough draft.	
11-29	Class cancelled due to AAA meetings	
12-04	Individual mentoring.	
12-06	Research design workshop. Bring 4 copies of revised draft.	
12-11	Individual mentoring.	
12-13	Class debriefing; student evaluations.	Mini Project 3 Due
	Friday, December 14: Last Day to Drop Using Special Circumstances*	
12-17	Final Project Due 6pm Monday in my office	

*Go to <http://www.morris.umn.edu/services/registrar/canceladd.html> for more information on Essential Deadlines.

****NOTE TO STUDENTS PREPARING SENIOR PROJECT:**

Students who have submitted *real* IRB applications will receive notification of the status of their application sometime after Dec. 5. As your supervisor, I will also be notified. There are various responses the IRB may have: Approval; Approval with Advice/Input; Approval with Stipulations; Denial. If you receive any response other than Approval, as is usually the case, I will assist you in making the required changes. Often, the IRB is just looking for reassurances that you the research will behave ethically. Or they simply need clarification. In any case, the key is to respond thoroughly and QUICKLY. The next deadline after the November meeting is usually early to mid January – last year it was during the first week of classes! - so we cannot wait to work on revisions in the Spring. I am willing to work with you during the break via email if it proves impossible to get a revised version done before the end of the semester. Remember that you can't gather any data before you have IRB approval.