Course Description:

There are two components to this course: the “Internship” component and the “Capstone” component, which entails ethnographic field research.

Internship

You are responsible for completing 75 hours at your internship site over the course of the semester. At the beginning of the semester, each student should meet with the supervisor at their internship to arrange a schedule of when they will be working and their responsibilities at the internship site. Students are responsible for adhering to that agreement throughout the semester and following the UWG Sociology Guidelines for Intern Behavior. In addition, you must complete the following documents over the course of your internship:

- Internship Agreement
- Time Log
- Mid-semester Evaluation and Final Evaluation

Ethnographic Field Research

You will use your internship as a site for practicing ethnographic field research. This will require you to use your background in sociology to think about your internship and how it is sociologically interesting. You will participant observe at your internship site, write field notes, and analyze your field notes to produce a “thick description” paper at the end of the semester.

Course Etiquette:

- I expect everyone attending class to have done the assigned readings and to be prepared to discuss them.
- I expect everyone to practice sensitivity and respect in all course discussions. You should feel free in class discussions to share as much as you are comfortable with about your experiences and background, but you must keep in mind that your classmates’ beliefs
and experiences may be different from yours and are equally deserving of respect. I expect you to also respect everyone’s race, gender, sexuality, nationality, religion, etc.

- **We will begin and end class on time.** In addition, unless you have an emergency or an extremely compelling reason, you should plan to stay for the entire class period.
- **Do not use your cell phone during class.** Keep cell phones in your bag/pocket, not out on your desk. If you are texting in class, I will ask you to leave.
- **Please check your UWG email and CourseDen daily M-F.**
- **Course assignments must be turned in to me at the beginning of class in hard copy.** I will not accept or grade assignments turned in over email.

**Contacting your professor:**

The best way to contact me outside of class is to visit my office hours. If you can’t make these hours, please let me know and we can arrange to meet at another time. If you feel that you are having a problem, please come with specific questions so that I can help you. You should also feel free to visit even if you are not having a “problem” in the course and just want to chat about something. I will also usually be available for a few minutes before and after class.

For more complicated questions, I recommend that you contact me via email – mckendry@westga.edu. I check my email frequently and will respond to you as soon as possible. **When you email me, remember to note in the email which class you are taking, and also to use correct grammatical English and normal capitalization.**

**Honor Code and UWG Policies:**

The University Honor Code is in effect for all written assignments and exams. Please read the provisions of the Honor Code carefully, and make certain that you understand and follow them. Violations of the Code will not be tolerated.

In addition to the Honor Code, you should review the University’s policies on the Americans with Disabilities Act, Email, and Credit Hours, as these change periodically. You can view the Honor Code and other policies here: [http://tinyurl.com/UWGSyllabusPolicies](http://tinyurl.com/UWGSyllabusPolicies)

I expect you to do all of your own work. Initial instances of academic dishonesty (ie plagiarizing on an assignment or cheating on a quiz/exam) will result in a grade of 0 for that assignment/quiz/exam. Additional instances of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the course.

**Readings:**

I have assigned the following books for our course. It is available for purchase at the university bookstore and online. I strongly encourage you to obtain your own copy of this book.
Course requirements and evaluation:

All written assignments must be turned in hard-copy. I will not grade papers that I receive over email. Grammar and composition are not a formal part of your assignment grades, but both are necessary to clearly present your ideas and experiences in a relatively small number of pages. If I cannot understand what you are trying to say, it is as though you have not said it, which may result in a lower grade.

Although regular class attendance and participation are necessary for achieving a good grade in this course, they are not formally part of your course grade. You will simply do much better on the assignments if you attend class each day and actively participate in discussions and group-work. If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out what occurred during the class session. Do not send me an email asking what you “missed.”

Your final grade will be based on the following required assignments:

- Internship Schedule and Responsibilities Memo (5 points)
- Weekly Fieldnotes (10 sets over the course of the semester) (20 points)
- MGG Reading Responses (15 points)
- Internship Flyer (10 points)
- Internship Diversity Assignment (15 points)
- Thick Description Paper Outline & Coded Fieldnotes (10 points)
- Thick Description Paper (25 Points)

I will award final grades using this scale: A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = 0-59

Week 1
August 24th: Introduction to the Course

Week 2
August 31st: Introduction to Participant Observation
- Esterberg, Ch 4 “Observation: Participant and Otherwise” (CourseDen)
- Emerson et al. 1995. Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes. Ch 2 “In the Field: Participating, Observing, and Jotting Notes”
- Internship Schedule and Responsibilities Memo DUE

Week 3
September 7th: Labor Day – NO CLASS
Week 4
September 14th: Writing Fieldnotes
  o *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes* Ch 3 “Writing Up Field Notes I: From Field to Desk” (CourseDen)
  o Arluke, “Managing Emotions in an Animal Shelter” (CourseDen)

Week 5
September 21st: Writing Fieldnotes
  o *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes* Ch 4, “Writing Up Field Notes II: Creating Scenes on the Page” (CourseDen)
  o Vaught and Smith, “Incorporation and Mechanical Solidarity in an Underground Coal Mine” (CourseDen)

Week 6
September 28th: Making Gray Gold
  o Diamond, *Making Gray Gold*, Ch 1
  o DUE: MGG Reading Response 1

Week 7
October 5th: Making Gray Gold
  o Diamond, Ch 2
  o DUE: MGG Reading Response 2

Week 8
October 12th: Making Gray Gold
  o Diamond, Ch 3
  o DUE: MGG Reading Response 3

Week 9
October 19th: Analyzing Fieldnotes
  o *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*, Ch 6 “Processing Fieldnotes: Coding and Memoing” (CourseDen)

Week 10
October 26th: Making Gray Gold
  o Diamond, Ch 4
  o DUE: MGG Reading Response 4
Week 11
November 2nd: Making Gray Gold
  o Diamond, Ch 5
  o DUE: MGG Reading Response 5

Week 12
November 9th: Writing Thick Descriptions
  o Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes, Ch 7 “Writing an Ethnography” (CourseDen)
  o Sanders, “Annoying Owners” (CourseDen)

Week 13
November 16th: Making Gray Gold
  o Diamond, Ch 6
  o DUE: MGG Reading Response 6
  o DUE: Thick Description Outline & Coded Fieldnotes

November 23rd: Thanksgiving – NO CLASS

Week 14
November 30th: Making Gray Gold
  o Diamond, Ch 7
  o DUE: MGG Reading Response 7

Monday, December 7th, 2-4:30 PM
  o DUE: Thick Description Paper