**RDGC/Humanities Postgraduate Research Skills Training**

**Ethnographic Methods**

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Slides available on Blackboard: PGR-RS/ Training Materials **/**Research Skills and Techniques **/**HUMS PGR: Ethnographic Methods

**Your research: paired discussion:**

* What aspects of your research topic could be developed using ethnographic methods?

**Your research: further reflection**

Taking one aspect of your research topic that could be developed using ethnographic methods, write down:

* 1. A broad research question to explore.
  2. What setting/group you would use to explore this question.
  3. How you would gain access to this setting/group. Do you foresee any difficulties doing this?
  4. Any ethical issues raised by this research. Would you be able to obtain informed consent and protect your participants’ identities?

**Further reading/resources:**

Delamont, S. (2008) 'For lust of knowing: observation in educational ethnography', in G Walford (ed.) *How to do educational ethnography*. London: Tufnell Press. pp. 39–56. – *good account of research process, especially how and what to observe/take notes on – available as electronic resource through WebCat*

Geertz, C. (1973) 'Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture', in *The Interpretation of Cultures*. HarperCollins. pp. 3–30.

Hammersley, M. (1992) Introducing Ethnography. *Sociology Review*. 2 (2), 18–20.

Hammersley, M. & Atkinson, P. (2007) *Ethnography: principles in practice*. London, UK : Routledge, 2007. (available as e-book)

O’Reilly, Karen (2005) *Ethnographic Methods*. London: Routledge.

Spradley, J. (1979) *The Ethnographic Interview* New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston

Spradley, J. (1980) *Participant Observation* New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston

Graham Gibbs: Ethnography. Part 1 of 2 on Ethnography and Participant Observation <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8doV3P0us4>

Graham Gibbs: What to observe in Participant Observation. Part 2 of 2 on Ethnography and Participant Observation

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JADIR-J9Ht4>