

Campus Kristiansand,
June 6. – 7. 2013
Room B2-014

Day 1: hour 10 – 15
Day 2: hour 09 – 15

Sign up to: ottar.michaelsen@uia.no
by 1. june.

Free of charge

Key references

Martyn Hammersley and Paul Atkinson,
Ethnography: Principles in Practice,
Third edition, London and New York: Routledge, 2007.
(Also translated into Norwegian)

Paul Atkinson, Sara Delamont and William Housley,
Contours of Culture: Ethnography for Complexity,
Lanham MD: AltaMira Press, 2008

Amanda Coffey and Paul Atkinson,
Making Sense of Qualitative Data,
Thousand Oaks CA: Sage, 1996

Paul Atkinson,
*The Ethnographic Imagination:
Textual Constructions of Reality*,
London and New York: Routledge, 1990.
Republished, Routledge 2010

James A. Holstein and Jaber F. Gubrium (eds)
Varieties of Narrative Analysis,
Thousand Oaks CA: Sage.

Detailed references will be provided as part of the
seminar materials.



UNIVERSITY OF AGDER



ETHNOGRAPHY

PRONET-SEMINAR

6 - 7 JUNE 2013

Two-day ethnography seminar

Paul Atkinson, Cardiff University



This seminar will address some of the key topics in the conduct of ethnographic fieldwork, and the processes of transforming data into ethnographic analysis. It will deal primarily with two sources of data: field observations and fieldnotes, and extended ethnographic interviews. The emphasis throughout will be on *practical* work with data. It will, therefore be in the form of a *masterclass*.

Key examples of data will be provided electronically before the seminar takes place, so that participants will have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the data. Participation in the seminar will therefore call for active engagement with the practical exercises, in small groups.

Day 1: 10 – 15

Topic for Day 1:

From observation to analysis.

From analysis to text.

The day's work will trace the process of ethnographic fieldwork from 'first days in the field' to the production of an ethnographic text.

Introductory lecture:

The logic of ethnographic inquiry and the processes of ethnographic analysis. An introduction to the fieldnotes and the analytic task.

A review of different strategies for conceptualising the ethnographic tradition, and theoretical underpinnings. Working with ethnographic field data is among the least understood and the poorest documented aspects of contemporary qualitative research.

Data workshop I.

Working with fieldnote data, participants will undertake a preliminary analysis. This will involve several hours of detailed analytic reading and the identification of key themes for possible analytic development.

Feedback from the small groups. Group presentations based on the preliminary analyses of the data. Identifying key topics themes from the data, and sharing them within the whole group.

Lecture: Writing ethnography.

An introduction to transforming data and analytic themes into ethnographic texts such as journal papers and monographs.

Writing workshop.

Developing selected themes from the preliminary analysis, and transforming them into preliminary ethnographic text. Using selected rhetorical devices to construct an ethnographic account. Weaving data together with ideas.

Day 2: 09 – 15

Topic for Day 2:

Ethnographic interviews and the analysis of accounts.

The day's work will be focused on the collection of talk, derived primarily from extended, qualitative interviews. Interview data are among the most poorly used forms of data, although they are the most often collected and used.

Introductory lecture.

The nature of the ethnographic interview. The interview society and the failures of qualitative interviewing. The collection and analysis of accounts and accounting devices. The analysis of stories and narratives. Discursive devices and speech acts.

Data workshop II.

Again, the primary emphasis will be on the analysis of actual data. Extended interview materials (also to be distributed before the seminar) will be the

basis of group-work, using the ideas outlined in the lecture.

Feedback from the small groups.

As with the first day we shall reconvene to discuss and present analyses from the small-group preliminary analyses.

Data workshop III.

We shall then proceed to develop and deepen the analysis with further examples of interview-derived narratives, examining the transformation of personal experience and the enactment of personal biographies through narratives.

Closing session.

Recapitulation and revision of the main themes of the seminar. Feedback from participants. Question-and-answer session.

