# SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

# Altre Conoscenze - Antropologia visiva

**2021-2-F0101R051-AV**

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## Course title

Visual Anthropology workshop

## Topics and course structure

The **visual anthropology** workshop is proposed as a space for reflection and experimentation **in audio-visual practices within ethnographic research.**

We will first of all analyse and reflect on the use of visual material within research, the study of visual systems (Hockings, '75) and that of visible culture (Taylor, '94). This will be achieved by getting participants involved in the creation and production of micro projects/research processes that will be developed thorough the **active use of audio-visual tools** (such as video cameras and cameras).

In order to achieve the above, we will introduce the following basics that are needed in order to produce the **micro-research** (whether this is carried out individually or as a group): aesthetics of image, shooting techniques and styles and video editing programs.

Starting from the guided vision of different **directing techniques used in documentary film** (poetic, descriptive, observational, participatory, reflective and interpretative), we will reflect on and investigate audiovisual representations of the ethnographic experience that call for varying interactions between the triangle of the director/anthropologist, the social actors and the audience (Nichols, 2006).

## Objectives

By developing a micro-ethnographic audiovisual, participants will experience the different elements that make up the ethnographic experience firsthand and will allow them to respond reflectively starting from some complex processes such as: remodeling a research object, defining a field of analysis, observing and analyzing the context (space, time, relationships and processes), the choice of interlocutors and the relationship with them.

## Methodologies

We will focus on the difference between the act of looking and that of seeing, the latter being an intentional and targeted act, a meaningful investment (MacDougall, 2007) that must leave a residue in the resulting images/sounds. We will reflect on the knowledge acquired through the use of audio-visual recordings and through the **direct involvement of participants in specific projects and research areas** in which the teacher currently collaborates in the Milan area.

This involvement will allow direct engagement both with individuals active in the contemporary cultural industry and also with the application of the anthropological discipline and the ethnographic method within projects whose purpose is not necessarily geared towards the academic but may be oriented towards social, cultural and urban change.

Participants will be guided as they **gradually put together the audiovisual material they collected** during the research process (video editing). Basic editing techniques will be learnt in parallel with the research and will be accompanied by a reflection on the potential and the limits of audiovisual representations of the ethnographic research experience.

The **final viewing of the completed works** may be opened up to include students, teachers, researchers, interlocutors, thus allowing for comparison, exchange and reflection on the experience. The approval of credit points is linked both to attendance and the participation in activities as well to the final audiovisual output (and ongoing exercises) which encapsulate the workshop program.

## Online and offline teaching materials

For students who are unable to use their own means of registration please write an E-mail to: sara.bramani@unimib.it

## Programme and references for attending students

The workshop bibliography will be define according to the project in which students will be involved and it will be specified at the first workshop meeting.

## Programme and references for non-attending students

For students who are unable to attend (for work reasons) it is possible to agree on a program that will be personally adapted by the teacher to meet ones individual interests, whether they be related to a thesis or to a particular area of note. In this case, it will be necessary to set up regular meetings and then monitor the agreed program.

For further information you can write to: sara.bramani@unimib.it

## Assessment methods

The approval of credit points is linked both to attendance and the participation in activities as well to the final audiovisual output (and ongoing exercises) which encapsulate the workshop program.

## Office hours

## Programme validity

## Course tutors and assistants