UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Antropologia Visiva

2526-2-F0101R051-AV

Course title

Visual anthropology lab

Topics and course structure

The visual anthropology workshop is a space for reflection and experimentation in the field of audiovisual practices in ethnographic research.

The primary aim is to stimulate reflection and analysis on the use of visual material in research and on the study of visual systems (Hockings, '75) and visible culture (Taylor, '94) through the involvement of participants in the development and implementation of micro-projects/research processes to be developed through the active use of audiovisual tools (video camera, camera).

In this context, the basic knowledge required for carrying out micro-research (individual or collective) will be presented: image aesthetics, filming techniques and styles, video editing programmes. Starting from a guided viewing of some documentary filmmaking techniques (poetic, descriptive, observational, participatory, reflective and interpretative), we will reflect on and experiment with audiovisual forms of representing ethnographic experience that involve different types of alliances within the triangle formed by the director/anthropologist, social actors and the audience (Nichols, 2006).

We will focus on the difference between the act of looking and that of seeing, the latter understood as an intentional and targeted act, an investment of meaning (MacDougall, 2007) that must leave a trace in the resulting images/sounds.

Students unable to acquire the 4 credits through active participation in the Laboratory activities for at least 75% of the 40 hours required (or through the other channels foreseen by the degree course) will be able to contact the teacher BEFORE THE START of the Laboratory owner and the Laboratory Assistant Professor to report their

specific situation. The methods for acquiring the 4 credits by female and exempt students will be explained during the first laboratory meeting..

Objectives

Knowledge and understanding:

- The development of an audiovisual micro-ethnography will allow participants to experience first-hand the different elements that make up the ethnographic experience and to reflect on them.
- Reflection will be stimulated on the knowledge that can be acquired through the use of audio-visual recording media and through the direct involvement of participants in a project supervised by the lecturer in a community for unaccompanied foreign minors in Milan. This involvement will allow for a direct comparison with the practical application of anthropology and ethnographic methods within projects whose aim is not necessarily academic but oriented towards social, cultural and urban change.

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding:

- Apply the knowledge acquired during the degree course in a research context with specific interlocutors.
- Ability to rework the knowledge acquired and give it written and/or audiovisual form.

Autonomy of judgement:

- Understand the complexity of cultural processes, welcoming and valuing different points of view and overcoming stereotypes and prejudices.
- Critically evaluate the information gathered and formulate relevant questions.

Communication skills:

- Formulate well-founded judgements, integrating information from different and reliable sources.
- Enhance communication skills in the expression of disciplinary language with third parties (educators, volunteers, community association members, government officials, etc.).

Learning skills:

- Develop and refine one's own learning methodologies, independently identifying and constructing objects and topics of study.

Methodologies

The visual anthropology workshop meetings will be both educational (10%) and interactive (90%). The planned activities are of an exercise and laboratory type. There will be no hours provided remotely (with the exception of the first meeting which, as reported above, will be streamed to allow those who have requested exemption - within the time and the manner foreseen by the Degree Course - to learn about the planned activities to obtain 4 credits).

Participatory teaching methodologies such as focus groups, plenary discussion, group exercises, will be favored. As well as digital form of sharing knowledge and good practices. Students will be asked to constantly and actively partecipate in the meetings.
The language used will be Italian with the possible intervention of linguistic mediators for Arabic, Pashto and Urdu.

Online and offline teaching materials

Videocamera, social networks, editing video software.
Didactic materials (both written and visual) will be share through E-learning platform.

Programme and references

Bibliography and programs will be specified during the workshop.

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

By appointment, writing to sara.bramani@unimib.it

Programme validity

The programmes are valid for two academic years

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS