



Fourth Assignment - Second Interview

Interview Skills: Exploring your domain(s) of interest

This second interview exercise continues your warming up and beginning to practice your fieldwork skills. Arrange an interview with someone whose work interests you regarding the domain(s) for your own career field. **Remember** this is a Social-Cultural Anthropology class so your focus is discovering how your interests intersect with social and cultural interactions, or put simply relating how you can use Anthropology in your career field/degree.

Plan for a one-hour, intensive, exploratory interview, not to last less than 45 minutes nor more than an hour and a half. In contrast to the first (non-recorded) interview, arrange to audio record this interview and be sure that you have the person's consent for audio recording.

Draft a list of four to six exploratory questions to get at understanding the person's research and/or professional experience in a domain that interests you – you can decide how to ask the questions and the person whom you interview can interpret your question in a variety of ways. You may or may not end up asking all of your questions, and the person's responses may lead you to ask different questions. Use the time to develop the interview as a special kind of conversation, listening and seeking to understand the person's experience, perspective and reflections on the domain.

Audio record this interview. (**Do not** video record the interview.) You will also want to jot down key terms and phrases during the interview, to note highlights and to note key words to guide you in conducting the interview. Immediately upon finishing the interview, make some notes to yourself about key words, phrases, and passages – these notes will help you focus in listening back to the interview and in summarizing it.

Listen back to the interview all the way through. **Do not** transcribe the interview verbatim (unless you have reasons beyond the assignment to do so!) – to transcribe an hour long interview can take 4-6 hours. Rather, create a "log" of topics to organize your notes from the interview -- identifying the flow of questions and answers but also indicating topics as they come up, highlighting important comments, key phrases and passages. You will want to transcribe selected statements as exact quotes (verbatim) – direct quotes for 3 to 5 points you feel are most important will be enough, so that you don't spend too long on the process of listening back and annotating the recorded interview.

The summary of the interview should include: Your name; a pseudonym (not the real name) for the respondent and his/her occupation; a brief reference to the setting in which the interview was conducted, your pre-prepared questions, and a description of the interview, its key points, 3-5 direct quotes, what you learned about the domain. Conclude with your reflections on the interview and on the use of audio recording: the interactions and dynamics between yourself and the person interviewed, your analysis of topics explored, how you experienced audio recording the interview (in contrast to your non-recorded interview), how having the interview audio recorded affected your analysis of the interview, any comments about what the interview suggests for your on-going research plans, any other observations you have..

The description should be typed, 2-4 pages, Times New Roman, 1 in margins, 12 point font.