Call for Papers for the Session

Current Issues In Doing Ethnographic Field Work

at the 9th International Conference on Social Science Methodology (RC33), University of Leicester (United Kingdom)

Conference Date: September 11th – 16th, 2016

Submission Deadline for Papers: 21st January, 2016

Conference Website

http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/sociology/research/rc33-conference/rc33-conference

Please find further information on ISA RC33 (Research Committee on Logic & Methodology of the International Sociology Association) on http://www.rc33.org/

Session Topic

Ethnography is a methodological approach commonly applied in sociology, science and technology studies, ethnology and anthropology. Researchers using ethnography usually (have to) spend a lot of time doing field work and they are facing different kinds of challenges. However, this session aims at exploring current issues when doing ethnographic field work. We are especially interested in examining strategies to reduce the field work time without missing out on relevant data. This is an important issue to discuss since resources (e.g. time, money, etc.) are often limited and sometimes long periods in the field are not necessary. There are different methodological debates that deal with this kind of problem, e.g. focused ethnography (Knoblauch 2005) or panel ethnographies (Petschick 2015). We would like to discuss them with you and learn from your experiences. Therefore, papers should deal with one of the following questions:

(1) How can researchers reduce field work? What are the advantages and disadvantages in doing so? Feel free to also present an innovative ethnographic approach.

(2) What kind of projects can be realized with short-term field visits? Please present your research project and how you dealt with arising problems.

(3) Otherwise, papers should contribute to this methodological debate in general: How can researchers reduce the time they have to spend in their field of research? What methodological considerations should an ethnographer keep in mind? How can she compensate for missed field work time? Or what aspects prevent you from reducing it?

Please consider to discuss your contribution by referring to a specific research project or by using specific research examples you are familiar with.

Session Convenors

Grit Petschick (grit.petschick@tu-berlin.de) & Cornelia Thierbach (cornelia.thierbach@tu-berlin.de)

How to Submit an Abstract

1. To submit a paper abstract for any session of the RC33 9th International Conference on Social Science Methodology, you should visit:
http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/sociology/research/rc33-conference/rc33-conference.

After landing on the homepage, navigate to 'Abstract Submission', which appears in the top left hand column of the webpage, see image below:

2. Complete the form in full. You may wish to cut and paste your abstract into the Abstract field from another document.

3. Choose the relevant session for your stream. To do so you will need to select the relevant lead session organiser from the drop-down menu highlighted in the image below. To check you are submitting to the correct session, you can view a table of sessions and session convenors by clicking the link entitled 'View the list of sessions and session convenors'. Once complete, click submit.