

Guidelines for observation write-ups (1 discussion section)

These are guidelines on how to conduct observations activity when one day of discussion sections are dedicated to the activity.

On 5/29 there is no class, so you can conduct 50 minutes of observation for your final papers. This write-up is what you will bring to your discussion section to workshop

- What are observation write-ups?
 - o Observation write-ups are ways for you to sort out your thoughts. Think of it as the midway point between your observations and writing a paper, it's where you work through your ideas between what you're seeing in real life and what you are learning about in class that week
- How long should they be?
 - o Approximately 1-2 pages, in narrative form
- How will they be incorporated in class?
 - o You will go over them during your discussion section
 - o They may also serve as a spring board to your final paper
- What are things I should be writing and thinking about?
 - o What are people doing? What are people saying? How are people interacting? How do these connect?
 - o How do broader social structures and context serve to support, maintain, impede or change their actions and statements?
 - o How does the location you are observing (the where or place) relate and shape the content (or what) you are observing
 - o How does what you are seeing compare with what we're learning in the class?

How will observation write ups be evaluated?

	Exemplary	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Description of observation	Paper provides clear description of what people are doing, what they are saying and concretely discusses how these things are connected	Paper provides an unclear description of what people are doing, what they are saying and only superficially discusses how these things are connected	Paper provides little to no description of what people are doing, what they are saying and has little to no discussion regarding how these things are connected
Connection between actions and statements with broader social structures and context	Paper clearly articulates the connection between the actions they witnessed, the statements they overheard (or asked) and the broader social structures and context in which they occur, and does so by using concrete examples from their observations	Paper provides weak connections between the actions they witnessed, the statements they overheard (or asked) and the broader social structures and context in which they occur, and uses vague examples from their observations	Paper discusses few to no connections between the actions they witnessed, the statements they overheard (or asked) and the broader social structures and context in which they occur, and uses no or only one vague example from their observations
Comparison with readings	Paper clearly articulates at least three ways in which their observations compare (both are similar and/or different) to the weekly readings and topics	Paper superficially, or weakly, discusses 1 or 2 ways in which their observations compare (both are similar and/or different) to the weekly readings and topics	Paper does not discuss the ways in which their observations compare (both are similar and/or different) to the weekly readings and topics, or if it does, provides little to no understanding of these connections