

ANÁLISIS DE DATOS (DATA ANALYSIS)

WORKING IN THE FIELD

HABILIDADES (SKILLS)

- Data analysis
- Coding and labeling

TAREA (ASSIGNMENT)

The purpose of this assignment is to practice coding your fieldnotes and interview transcripts. The first step toward finding a focus for your ethnographic essay is to think about your fieldnotes, observations, and interview responses as data that you can begin to categorize and use to develop patterns and themes.

Coding and labeling your data:

- Read through all your notes, interview transcripts, and expanded fieldnotes at **least two times**. I recommend that you read once from the first notes to the last notes and once from the last notes to the first. As you read, notice when and where you become particularly interested in what you have written and when you start to see patterns of ideas. **Circle, mark, highlight, or note these passages in a way that helps you identify themes.**
- Review the passages you have highlighted or think of a way to categorize them into 3-5 groups based on how they are connected (e.g. immigrant changes in language, immigrant changes in identity, immigrant changes in relationships to home, etc.). Then, **NAME those categories or patterns and make a list of them.** That list of categories becomes your "**coding scheme.**" You should have 3-5 key ideas named as "**codes**" in your coding scheme. If you have too many, you won't find patterns. If you have too few to start from it will be impossible to make sense of your research.
- Make a separate section in a new document for each of your named **codes**. Copy and paste the specific moments from your fieldnotes and interview transcripts that provide examples of each code or category in the appropriate code section. Be sure to include a citation following each quote or fieldnote that includes information about when, where, and with whom (in the case of a quote) each bit of information created. This method will provide you with a handy list of everything you have noted that is related to a particular code. When you start writing your essay you can conveniently pull from this list.
- As you mark or make lists of examples for each "code" from your fieldnotes think constantly about what you are finding. What are the larger connections between ideas? What do you think

these patterns/ideas might mean? Do you see any connections to your secondary source material? Write ideas down as they come to you. As you connect the dots of your pattern, you will begin to gain a better understanding of what you have learned and what is worth sharing in your final essay. If you want to brainstorm visually, make a concept map of each code/theme and what you associate with it from your primary data and secondary source material.

- Write a one or two paragraph explanation of what you think is the most interesting thing you have found about the categories/codes/patterns in your research - WHAT are they? What are the characteristics of those patterns? What meaning have you discovered in your research and about your research site? About your research questions? About yourself?
- Turn in your document with codes, your list of examples from data, and a 2-paragraph explanation as you “Data Analysis” assignment.

EVALUACIÓN (ASSESSMENT)

- Coding and labeling: 25%
- List of excerpts from fieldnotes and transcriptions: 25%
- Two paragraph explanation: 25%