

EDUC545.010 SEMINAR IN VISUAL ETHNOGRAPHY

PART I

STANTON WORTHAM

Dr. Wortham, Chair of the ECS Division and Judy & Howard Berkowitz Professor, has done work involving action research and service learning, ethnography in urban and rural high schools and their surrounding communities, and discourse analysis.

AMIT DAS

Amit Das is Director of GSE Films and a Senior Fellow at UPenn's Graduate School of Education. He joined PennGSE after 15 years at NYU as a member of the NYU-Film faculty and Director of NYU's Department of Film, Video and Broadcasting.

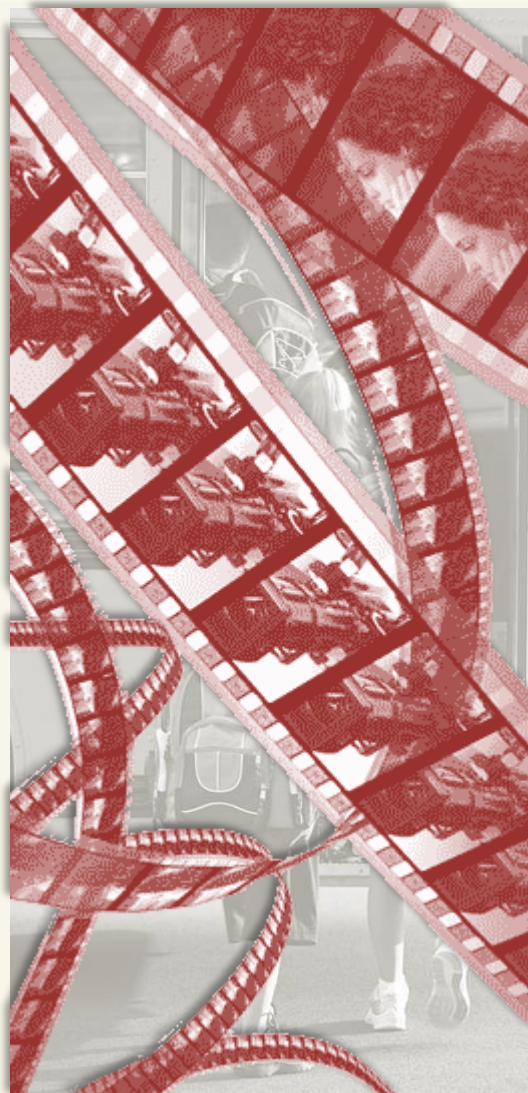
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar considers film or video as a medium for presenting academic research to scholarly and non-scholarly audiences. The seminar explores the following questions. What are some of the more and less compelling ways of incorporating film or video into the qualitative social sciences? What problems arise from the deployment of film and video as mechanisms for representing socio-cultural data? Where do prevailing norms and practices of filmmaking and cinematic communication converge and diverge from the needs of academic presentation? Can we use film as a medium to represent truly academic research of the sort communicated in the best books and journal articles? We will read about a few central topics in the area and have seminar discussions, we will host filmmakers and have screenings and discussions of their work, and we will have student presentations of their own video products.

Students will learn to research, write, shoot and edit films during the seminar. The fall semester requires them to attend special film production workshops during which they are taught screenwriting, producing, digital cinematography and film editing. Over the semester, students are expected to demonstrate that they have acquired proficiency in the professional, creative crafts and technical skills needed for the next semester. The ensuing Spring 2015 optional component (Part II) of the course will require that teams of students produce short films or media products that engage and inform the questions being explored in the seminar. Students can produce documentaries, fiction and experimental films or even multimedia web-based media projects.



**NEW COURSE OPEN TO MASTER'S
AND DOCTORAL STUDENTS**



SPECIAL NOTES: Interested students may (but are not required to) continue building out their projects in the *Seminar in Visual Ethnography, Part II*, slated for Spring 2015. The Spring section will only be open to students who were enrolled in the Fall.

Fall 2014, Wednesdays, 2:00 to 4:30 PM