

The Course: Visual Anthropology

Dr. Thompson has thirty years of worldwide professional photography and film experience, including eleven years as a **National Geographic** photographer. He will share his insight and expertise in terms of content and support with respect to applying the mediums and editing of visual material from an anthropological standpoint.

During this course, students will come to understand the culture through the use of cameras and video recorders. The use of these visual tools will be taught and practiced through individual and group efforts. The final project will consist of group productions of 8-12 minute videos and/or still photographic presentations - essentially visual anthropological monographs.

Each individual participant will give a presentation to the group critiquing, in anthropological terms, their group's audio-visual monograph, its successes and weaknesses. In addition to the critique, a short paper will be required discussing the nature of personal individual efforts in the development of the group project. Essentially, in this short analysis, you will assess and define what you have learned through the course. Some reading is required; however, given the nature of the course, the reading is designed to be both reasonable and possible in the context of travel. The readings will be assigned prior to the beginning of the course