

Nederlands Instituut Athene - NIA  
Ολλανδικό Ινστιτούτο Αθηνών - Netherlands Institute at Athens



Athens Ethnographic Film Festival - Ethnofest  
Φεστιβάλ Εθνογραφικού Κινηματογράφου Αθήνας



Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
Πανεπιστήμιο VU Άμστερνταμ



Netherlands Institute at Athens (NIA), Athens Ethnographic Film Festival (Ethnofest)  
& Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU)

## Summer School July 1 – July 23, 2017

### Visual Ethnography of Cityscapes

Applicants:

Outstanding last year BA, Master & 1<sup>st</sup> year PhD students in  
Social/Political Sciences, Humanities & Fine Arts

The Netherlands Institute at Athens, the Athens Ethnographic Film Festival, the department of Social and Cultural Anthropology of the VU Amsterdam in cooperation with the Ethnographic Laboratory of Panteion University, organize this intensive summer school in collaboration with Dutch and Greek universities.

#### ***About the course***

Visual anthropology is becoming today an almost indispensable tool for anyone considering ethnographic research, visual analysis, studies of material culture, or critical engagements with cinema, photography and other forms of cultural display. By discussing the available methodological tools and critically reflect on their application within urban contexts, we are focusing on the visual ethnography of cityscapes. Students will be learning how to use audio-visual ethnographic methods in one of the



most interesting urban landscapes of Europe and will be producing a short ethnographic film to be considered for presentation in a special section in the Athens Ethnographic Film Festival.

It is apparent that today the visual, in all its manifestations, possesses a special place in the "world" of anthropology and social sciences. Besides the internal changes in academia and the technological developments that have reshaped the relationship of anthropology/ethnography with the use of audio-visual means, the field of visual anthropology has by now expanded both in terms of scope and institutional role.

These recent changes have not been thoroughly explored in the cityscapes of Greece. Although the social, political and economic transformations of the last years are being examined by social and political scientists, there is a need to add visual ethnography and visual anthropology to our toolbox in a more systematic way.

In our summer school the emphasis will be on the theoretical position of the visual within social/political theory and on the practical use of audio-visual means in the ethnographic process. In examining the use of visual methods, the lectures will focus on both historical and contemporary examples of ethnographic film and photography.

### ***Instructors***

#### ***Confirmed speakers include:***

- Prof. Dimitrios Dalakoglou (VU)
- Prof. Mark Westmoreland (University of Leiden)
- Ass. Prof. Eleana Yalouri (Panteion University)
- Ass. Prof. Penelope Papailias (University of Thessaly)
- Dr. Elpida Rikou (Athens School of Fine Arts)
- Dr. Tryfon Bampilis (NIA)
- Dr. Konstantinos Aivaliotis (University of Thessaly, Ethnofest)
- Dr. Christos Varvantakis (University of Sussex, Ethnofest)
- Drs. Metje Postma (University of Leiden)

### ***Structure of the course***

From 1 July until 23 July 2017 the seminars will run daily at the NIA in Athens and will combine field research (film & photography production) in specific neighbourhoods of Athens and at selected locations. The seminar will focus on a general theoretical context in relation to visual anthropology/ethnographic methodology and contemporary approaches to field research in an urban setting with an overview of the current situation in Greece. Most days there will be one or two intensive sessions of three-five hours in total. In the sessions, the lecturers give an overview of the theory of



visual anthropology/ ethnography with reference to key debates and a clear focus on cityscapes in Athens (Greece). During the course of the day students will be able to conduct their research and make ethnographic film records of their topics of interest. In preparation to the seminar, all students are expected to have read the literature before arrival in Greece.

### ***Aim***

The aim of the seminar is to give students the experience of filming in a highly diverse and multi-layered urban setting, present the product (film) of their research in Athens in a special section in the Ethnographic film festival of Athens and have an overview of current debates and research topics in visual anthropology and ethnography. By participating and learning the filming and production process, the students gain practical experience in this new context, use their skills, make new contacts and learn how to present their findings within wider local and global contexts.

### ***Method***

During the seminar the students are expected to participate actively in all the courses and conduct visual ethnographic field research. The small “ethnographic film project” may focus on life stories, specific neighbourhoods or social networks, but it can expand to wider processes such as politics, migration or religion. In collaboration with local research groups, students will be able to come in contact with various people to discuss, interview and explore their topics. Students will record and collect their material, which will be given a coherent form under the guidance of experienced staff in order to be presented at the end of our school and later at the Athens Ethnographic Film Festival. Each student or group of students will be producing a short ethnographic film of approximately 10 minutes.

### ***Course requirements, language and evaluation***

The course is accessible to outstanding last year BA, Master and first year PhD students. All lectures will be given in English. Students are required to participate actively in all the lectures and discussions during the courses. Their **performance during seminars their final audio-visual product and an essay of 1500 words relating the choices made in the film** will be evaluated by this year’s appointed Review Committee. **Ethnofest will be deciding which of the films produced during the summer school meet all the requirements to be presented at the Athens Ethnographic Film Festival after the films have been submitted to the festival for review.** The deadline for submitting the film for review for this summer school special section of the festival is **October 1<sup>st</sup>**. The successful students will be notified one



month before the festival. The festival will be taking place at the end of November 2017.

#### ***Course period, dates and times***

The course consists of 21 intensive days with lectures and field research. The first course day will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July, the last on the 22<sup>th</sup>, and the student presentations will take place on 23 July 2017. Classes are daily, usually between 10.00 and 15.00 including lunch break. The rest of the time students will be conducting field research.

#### ***Participation – application***

Only outstanding last year BA, Master and first year PhD students can participate in the seminar. Students can apply by sending the adjoined application form (also available at the following link: [http://www.nia.gr/images/VEC\\_application\\_2017.doc](http://www.nia.gr/images/VEC_application_2017.doc)) to Dr. Tryfon Bampilis at [nia@nia.gr](mailto:nia@nia.gr) until the **28<sup>th</sup> of April 2017**. Successful applicants will be notified by **15<sup>th</sup> of May**. Since the number of participants is limited to 30), we encourage early registration. Selecting criteria will apply.

#### ***Costs and subsidies***

The total cost of the course is 550€ for all E.U. students. Overseas (non-EU) fees are 1150€. Students have a discount of the tuition fees of € 200 if they do not use the institute's accommodation. For all other students the **Netherlands Institute at Athens is providing accommodation during the seminar**. Students are expected to cover their own travel and living expenses.

#### ***Accommodation***

During the course the Institute will offer free accommodation to the participants/students in its guest rooms or in nearby hotels. Students will be sharing rooms

#### ***Transport to the institute***

On arrival to Athens you can commute to NIA by **Metro (Acropolis)**, taxi or bus. The institute is situated near the metro station Acropolis in the city centre, next to the areas of Plaka and Thision. For exact information on how to get to NIA please contact the secretary Mrs Emmy Makri at [emakri@nia.gr](mailto:emakri@nia.gr)

For more information regarding the course, please contact:

**Netherlands Institute at Athens (NIA)**, Dr. Tryfon Bampilis. Makri 11, 11742, Athens, Greece, Tel.: + 30 210 9210760; Mobile: + 30 6976465830, email: [trifonb@yahoo.com](mailto:trifonb@yahoo.com) or [nia@nia.gr](mailto:nia@nia.gr)



**Athens Ethnographic Film Festival**, p.o. box 66009, 15501, Holargos, Athens, Greece,  
email: [info@ethnofest.gr](mailto:info@ethnofest.gr), mobile: +30 6945 104788, [www.ethnofest.gr](http://www.ethnofest.gr)

***Organizing Committee:***

- Dr. Winfred Van de Put (Director NIA)
- Dr. Tryfon Bampilis (Social Sciences Scientific Adv. NIA)
- Dr. Konstantinos Aivaliotis (University of Thessaly, Ethnofest)
- Dr. Christos Varvantakis (University of Sussex, Ethnofest)
- Silas Michalakas (Ethnofest)
- Prof. Dimitrios Dalakoglou (VU)
- Prof. Eleana Yalouri (Panteion)
- Drs. Metje Postma (University of Leiden)

***Bibliography***

***Obligatory readings***

1. Banks, Marcus and Howard Morphy (1997). *Rethinking Visual Anthropology*, New Haven, London: Yale University Press.
2. Crawford, Peter and David Turton (ed.) (1992) *Film as Ethnography*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
3. Grimshaw, Anna (2001). *The ethnographer's eye: ways of seeing in modern anthropology*, Cambridge University Press.
4. Grimshaw, A. and Ravetz, A. (2009). *Observational Cinema: Anthropology, Film, and the Exploration of Social Life*, Indiana University Press.
5. MacDougall, David (2006). *The Corporeal Image, film, ethnography, and the senses*, Princeton University Press.
6. Taylor, Lucien (ed.) (1994) *Visualizing Theory: Selected Essays from V.A.R. 1990 1994*. London, New York: Routledge.



### ***Extra suggested readings***

7. Banks, Marcus and Ruby J. (ed.) (2011), *Made to Be Seen: Perspectives on the History of Visual Anthropology*, University of Chicago Press.
8. Barbash, Ilisa and Lucien Taylor (ed.) (1997). *Cross-Cultural Filmmaking: a handbook for making documentary and ethnographic films and video*. Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California Press.
9. Dalakoglou, D. 2013a. "From the Bottom of the Aegean Sea, to Golden Dawn: Security, Xenophobia, and the Politics of Hate in Greece" in *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*: Vol.13, No. 3, pp. 514-522.
10. De Brigard, Emilie [1975(2003)] 'The History of Ethnographic Film'. in *Principles of Visual Anthropology*, Paul Hockings (ed.) p.13-43, Berlin, New York: Mouton de Ruyter.
11. Grimshaw, Anna and Ravetz Amanda (2005). *Visualizing Anthropology*, Bristol: Intellect.
12. Herzfeld, M. 2013. "The European Crisis and Cultural Intimacy" in *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*: Vol.13, No. 3, pp. 514-522.
13. Loizos, Peter (1993). *Innovation in Ethnographic Film: From Innocence to Self-consciousness, 1955-85*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
14. MacDougall, David (1992). "Photo Wallahs: an Encounter with Photography" in *Visual Anthropology Review* 8(2):96-100.
15. MacDougall, David (1998). *Transcultural Cinema*, Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.
16. Nichols, Bill (1991). *Representing Reality: Issues and Concepts in Documentary*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
17. Pinney, Christopher (1997). *Camera Indica: the social Life of Indian Photographs*. University of Chicago Press.
18. Rollwagen, Jack (ed.) (1988). *Anthropological Filmmaking*, New York: Harwood.
19. Ruby, Jay (2000). *Picturing Culture: Explorations of Film & Anthropology*. Chicago, London: University of Chicago Press.



20. Russell, Catherine (1999). *Experimental Ethnography*. Durham, London: Duke University Press.
21. Seremetakis, C. Nadia (1996). *The Senses Still*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press
22. Taylor, Lucien. (1998). 'Visual anthropology is dead. Long live visual anthropology!' *American Anthropologist* 100.2: 534–537.