

**INFO 272. Qualitative Research Methods for Information Systems and Management
Fall 2011**

Final Project (worth 55% of your grade) – Due 12/12/11

Your final assignment is to carry out an independent research project of your own design. You may choose to build on the work we started at the beginning of the term on how people interact with technology in public places. If so, I'll be looking for how you incorporate the findings generated by the class up to this point to move forward with additional data collection and analysis. If you choose to do a series of interviews I'll expect to see 4 total and this can include the two interviews you conducted for assignment 2. Now is your chance to incorporate any additional techniques taught in the course such as projective interviewing, group interviews, or text/document/image analysis as appropriate for your project. You may also carry out interviews by phone, over Skype or chat, using a translator, etc. For PhD students, you can use this as an opportunity to do some preliminary (or not so preliminary) fieldwork. Your write up should include:

- 1) About 1000 words (give or take) on your methodological choices with reference to course readings. In this section it may be useful to account for the epistemological issues you encountered and discuss the status of the knowledge you have generated through your data collection and analysis process.
- 2) The rest of your analysis (up to 2000 words) should be an evaluation of the data you've collected and should be written in reference to some relevant literature.

Total word count: around 3000 words (NOTE: please don't go substantially over this word count or submit to me unfinished journal articles or thesis chapters – I need to see that this is something that has been cultivated for this course even if it is something you're working on for other purposes)

Evaluation criteria: I'll be looking to see how well you've integrated the various concepts introduced in this course and for the appropriateness and innovativeness of the decisions you've made about data collection and analysis.