

**INFO 272. Qualitative Research Methods for Information Systems and Management
Fall 2012**

Assignment 1 (15%) – Due 10/9/12 (submit in class)

Field Notes. For the first half of the term we will be collaborating as a class on a study of how people interact with ‘technology’ in public places. You’ll be keeping a field notebook. For this assignment, you will submit your typed and printed fieldnotes along with a one page analysis.

Your fieldnotes should be ‘full fieldnotes’ (not ‘jottings’) – see Lofland and Lofland for the distinction.

The one-page analysis should include:

- 1) a couple of main findings from your observations about ‘how people engage with technologies in public places’
- 2) should refer, in some form, to methodological issues raised in lectures and readings in the first part of the course – it may help to actually reference or quote the reading.
- 3) should demonstrate your ability to think ‘iteratively’ - what does your collected data suggest to you about how to direct your research efforts if you were to continue this project?

I will also be evaluating the notes themselves for how rich and extensive they are and how you’ve managed to generate (and distinguish between) descriptive and interpretive material.