## Mark Lewine Cuyahoga Community College From ANTH 1010: Cultural Anthropology Syllabus

## FIELDWORK REPORT OPTIONS

- 1. Historical archaeology research experience in our college neighborhood! Plan to spend at least a half a day (in old clothes) digging up historic cultural information (in good weather) or doing lab work with myself and Elizabeth Hoag, our Research Coordinator and/or Al Lee, our senior archaeologist, or Elizabeth Hoag, our Research Coordinator at an actual 19<sup>th</sup> century site on the Metropolitan Campus or other sites. During this time you will be trained in archaeological methods as well as have actual digging experience. Following this experience you are to write a Field Observation Report detailing when, where, with whom, and what you did, plus what you learned, using terms and concepts from the course. Call Dr. Mark Lewine at 987-4513 for lab or Dig schedule.
- 2. Family cultural history. Make arrangements to do an audio or videotaped interview with an older person in your family (cultural informant), from either side, about their memories of family history and cultural traditions. You might want to discuss places of origin, family structure, work, beliefs and values, play and recreation, important events in their lives, ways of coping with or celebrating events, heirlooms and their origins, and anything else you or your informant considers significant. You may want to make an extra copy of this tape to preserve. After the interview, you are to write a field report regarding this experience, including such items as who this informant is and their relationship to you, why you picked this person, what kind of planning or preparation went into the interview, why you asked the questions you did, what significant information you learned (only if you want to share it) and finally your view of the experience. Turn in both a copy of the tape and a paper of about three pages. The tape will be returned to you, if you pick it up.
- 3. Cleveland Museum of Natural History visit. Remember to bring your student I.D. when you visit the museum. While there, note exhibits on culture in a variety of ecological environments in Sears Hall, followed by displays on the Ohio Woodland cultural history including the Adena and Hopewell cults located in the adjoining hall. After this there is the section on human evolution with noted fossil finds. Often there are additional special exhibits of anthropological interest available during the year. Suggestion: make notes during your tour and collect any relevant information about exhibits while you are there. Following your visit, write a paper of about three pages regarding what you saw and learned.
- 4. Ethnographic book report. Select and read an ethnographic field report on a culture (see the Case Studies on reserve at the Metro library). Then write a report summarizing what you learned about the culture. Also include how the ethnographer observed and analyzed his/her observations. The paper should be at least 3 pages of information and analysis. After you have found a book, check with the instructor to be sure that it is one that will fulfill the ethnographic requirement.
- 5. Primate observation at the Cleveland Zoo. Plan to spend an hour observing one of the primate cages, taking field notes in about five minute intervals. Be sure to note everything you observe, including the primates observing other primates. Try to avoid human-like judgments of what you are seeing. Following this session, write up Field Observation Report including the species name and some general information about the species (some of this can be found noted beside each cage at the zoo), such as the natural range, living habits, diet, etc. Also include a discussion of your observations and finally your opinions of this experience. This paper of about 3 pages should be turned in, along with your actual field notes. Hint: The best time to visit the zoo is in the morning or late afternoon to see primate activity. They tend to nap in the afternoon.