

Individual reflection paper instructions:

#### Reflection #1 (Sept. 13)

The focus for this week is on the practice and potential of unstructured observation. In our reflection, feel free to compare and contrast unstructured and structured observation techniques if it is useful to you. (Note: We realize that you do not have started thinking about your research proposal yet, so for the *What now?* paragraph, we recommend that you consider the types of questions you might want to research related to student experiences at UTM and whether or not unstructured observation would be useful.)

#### Reflection #2 (Sept. 20)

Writing a good research question is a difficult. This week you started the process of finding a topic for your future research topic. The activity in tutorial asked you to reflect on why you were drawn to particular topics and issues. For your reflection paper, think about the process of choosing research topics and why attention to your process is important.

#### Reflection #3 (Sept. 27)

The focus for this week was on better understanding yourself as an instrument of research. In your reflection think about what you learned about how you engage with your environment as well as the implications of this for your research.

#### Reflection #4 (Oct. 4)

Ethical concerns are major issues in research. For this week's reflection, describe the potential ethical concerns for your potential research and why they are of concern. In your reflection, you can discuss the ease or difficulty of identifying ethical concerns as well how you might address them.

#### Reflection #5 (Oct. 25)

This week we moved away from pure observation to both participant-observer and observer-participant. Use your reflection paper to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of these two different styles of data collection and when they might be most applicable.

#### Reflection #6 (Nov. 1)

Interviews are a common research method used by qualitative researchers. In tutorial, you practiced semi-structured interviews. Reflect on your experience of writing questions, interviewing, and revising your interview script. What did you learn about your own style? The method? Its potential in your research?

#### Reflection #7 (Nov. 15)

Analyzing qualitative data can be quite complicated. This week you practiced open coding and axial coding on the podcasts you transcribed. In your reflection, discuss the process of coding as a means of analysis. What are its strengths and weaknesses? What are your strengths and weaknesses in relation to the process of coding?