

Importance of senses in ethnography

- 01.** To understand peoples relationships with the world it is important to consider how we interact with the world.
- 02.** Even walking involves complex social interactions. (Ingold, 2004)
Bobbing and weaving between people negotiating space between other walkers involving many senses without the walker even knowing.
- 03.** Many of the senses have largely been ignored by western science as such understanding of other cultures may be hindered by forcing a western world view.

WHAT IS A SENSORY ETHNOGRAPHY

According to Sarah Pink's 2009 book *Doing Sensory Ethnography*, a sensory ethnography is an exercise of doing an ethnography including our interactions with the material world through our senses. (Pink, S. 2009)



Dianna Coole and Samantha Frost say that "Our existence depends on from one moment to the next on myriad micro-organisms and diverse higher species, on our own hazily understood bodily... as well as on socio-economic structures that produce and reproduce the conditions of our everyday lives." (Coole and Frost, 2010)



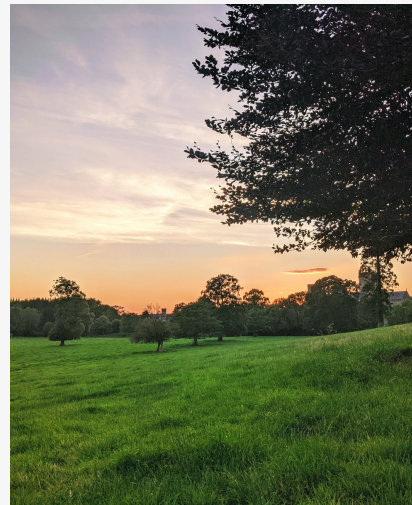
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SENSORY ETHNOGRAPHY

This leaflet will be first of all an explanation of what a sensory ethnographic is. Particularly focusing on Ingold's *Culture On The Ground: The World Perceived Through the feet*.

Ingold Culture on the Ground: The World Perceived Through The Feet

Ingold notes that throughout western science as far back as darwin and before the west has had a fixation on the hands and it being the primary way humans have interacted with the world. The hand being free from the use of walking due to the advent of bipedalism allowed humanity to develop other faculties (Ingold, 2004).



Interactions with landscape

Growing need to focus on many senses

as this will help with the research of the landscape. (Jakobsson, 2009)

As we transfer to more

urban environments we no longer shape environments in the same way we did in the past, trampling grass etc.

(Ingold, 2004) Because of this in order to understand our interactions with the world we should consider other senses rather than the most immediately obvious to the west.

Photos (French, M. 2021)

Citations

Coole, D. and Frost, S., 2010. New materialisms. Durham, Duke University Press.

french, M. 2021. My own photos left to right Stanton Drew, Wells Cathedral

Ingold, T., 2004. Culture on the Ground. Journal of Material Culture, 9(3), pp.315-340

Jakobsson, A., 2009. Experiencing Landscape While Walking. department of landscape Architecture

Pink, S., 2009. Doing sensory ethnography. Sage Publications