

Internet Assignment I, Part B

FIELDWORK: THE ANTHROPOLOGIST IN THE FIELD

Review the Writing Requirements and Formatting sheet before starting.

This is an account of Dr. Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi's fieldwork among the Gende people of New Guinea. You will get a sense of what it is like to do fieldwork far from home by reading this account, and you will also see how an anthropologist (ethnographer) observes and participates in the lives of those she is studying, how she keeps records and writes about her experiences, her homesickness, and how she must interact with government and institutions in order to accomplish her fieldwork. Pay attention particularly to the types of questions that Zimmer-Tamakoshi tried to answer. (Here *research* questions are meant.)

Click on the word "Enter" and navigate through the pages of this website using the buttons at the left. Some buttons have "sub-buttons." <http://www.theanthropologistinthefield.com/>

1. What are the topics that an anthropologist must usually cover in a research proposal?
2. What preparations did Zimmer-Tamakoshi make in order to communicate with the people whom she would be studying?
3. What kind of political system was in place among the people Zimmer-Tamakoshi studied? (Read also pp. 125-126 in the textbook for more information on this type of political system.)
4. Provide four examples of how Zimmer-Tamakoshi achieved rapport and participated in the life of the Gende.
5. What insights did Zimmer-Tamakoshi obtain about the practice of gambling among the Gende? What methods did she use to gain these insights? (Read the section on Field Methods carefully.)
6. Be sure to read the entire section called "Fieldnotes" to get a sense of how the careful recording of information aided Zimmer-Tamakoshi later in writing up her research. You might consider keeping a "log" or "diary" of your studies in PACE.

THE GENDE: PEOPLE FROM THE HIGH COUNTRY OF NEW GUINEA. A Photo Essay about the Gende people and changes in their culture that Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi co-wrote. Browse through these photos as a supplement to reading about her fieldwork among the Gende.

http://www.marengomining.com/documents/The_Gende-copyright_publication.pdf