

# Understanding the World and Ourselves Through Important Items, Household Organization, and the Foods that Fuel Us

## A Global Culture Documentary Photography and Analysis Extra-Credit Assignment

If there is one thing that the documentary photography work that Peter Menzel and Faith D'Alusion represents, it is the important roles that material items, homes, and food plays in all human lives world-wide.

However, their works also highlight the incredibly powerful role that anthropological media production (documentary photography in this case) can play in enabling us to see and sense other people and other values. Their works also make some strong arguments about the health and environmental impact that our decisions are having.

Here is your chance to stand on their shoulders (so to speak) and try your hand at anthropological documentary photography.

For this extra-credit assignment, you'll need to photograph at least four people in your family in their "home" environment and with either their most valued "stuff" or a week's worth of their food (or both).

You'll then need to interview them about the "value" of their prized items and/or the role(s) that food(s) play in their lives.

Your write-up and analysis for this project will incorporate their views along with your own anthropological perspectives on what they have to say and present. As any good cultural anthropologist, be careful not to judge or cast dispersions on the people who offer up a glimpse of their lives for the sake of your learning/understanding.

Yes, you may include yourself in this anthropological study.

But you will count as #5.

All photographs and writing should be created by you utilizing all of the stylized artistry you can muster. 😊