

CTLT Symposium 2016

### Federal University of Viçosa, Minas Gerais



Short-Course on anthropology of higher ed and ethnographic methods for undergraduate and graduate students

Teaching ethnographic methods via student research on their own university

Designed course with local resources and texts in Portuguese





## Lesson 1: Syllabus as teaching tool

Explaining the rationale or the course and selected materials:

- my syllabus is my approach what others are there?
- why those texts/exercises in that order?

Recursive questioning of the syllabus as students learn

- fosters critical perspective
- opens dialogue



## Lesson 2: The University as Teaching Tool

#### Do my students understand:

- why my course is required? elective?
- what is General Education?
- what the difference is between a community college and a four-year comprehensive university?

#### How might this understanding

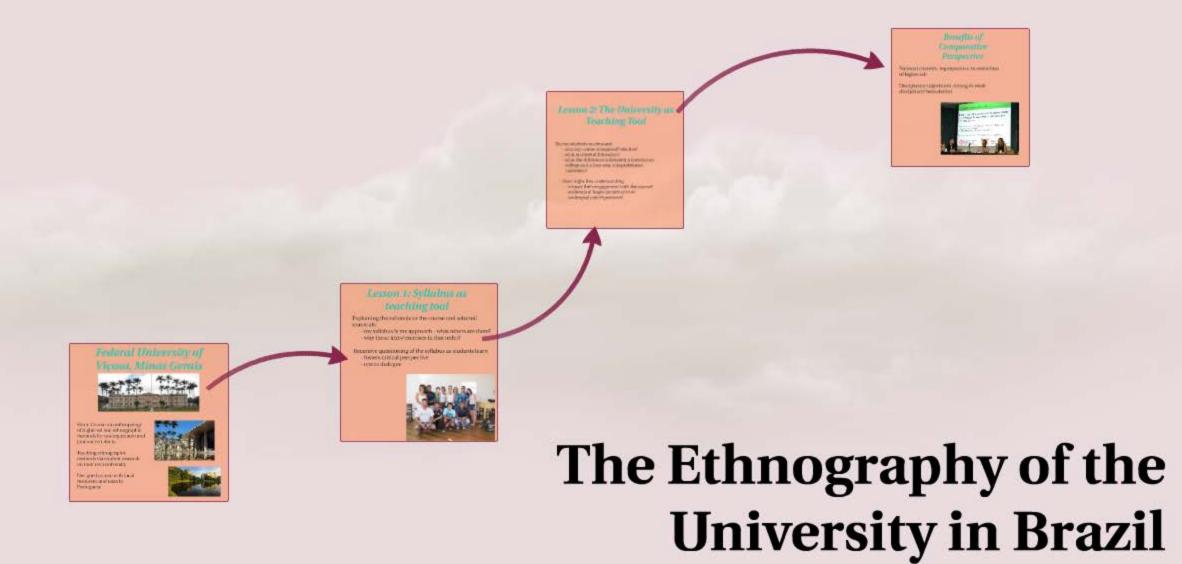
- impact their engagement with the course?
- understand larger context of their undergraduate experience?

# Benefits of Comparative Perspective

National contexts (eg expansion vs restriction of higher ed)

Disciplinary trajectories (strong vs weak disciplinary boundaries)





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