

Preliminary Program

Workshop “Doing Cultural Analysis Beyond the Gap. Towards a European Applied Anthropology”

Department of Cultural Analysis, University of Klagenfurt, May 16-17, 2025

Friday, May 16

13:00 - 13:30 Registration

13:30 - 14:00 Welcome and Introductions from the Workshop organizers

14:00 - 16:00 Session 1 - We Have Always Been Collaborative

In the first session, we start from the question of how our work in applied cultural analysis might be understood as collaborative and reflect upon what we and the people/institutions we are collaborating with might gain from such approaches.

In discussing relations with research partners in the field, we also assess how we can hold our theoretical perspectives accountable regarding the issues we are analysing and the challenges we are facing when doing field research.

Session 1 - Input speakers:

Mark Vacher (coordinator MACA Copenhagen)

Katarzyna Herd (coordinator MACA Lund)

Maria Rădan-Papasima (co-founder Antropedia)

Chair: Milo Lukas Strauss (Department of Cultural Analysis, University of Klagenfurt)

16:00 - 16:30 Coffee Break

16:30 - 18:30 Session 2 - Up and Down, Back and Forth: Translating and Transferring Knowledge in Practical Contexts

In this section, we focus on the application of anthropological knowledge in contexts of teaching, training, and working with partners in and outside academia. What are processes or methods that can give anthropological knowledge more impact? How can we address potential tensions between commodification and social engagement? How can anthropological knowledge make a difference in the contexts we work in? How should this knowledge be presented to a wider audience?

Session 2 - Input speakers:

Ana Isabel Afonso (NOVA University of Lisbon)

Laurens Bakker (University of Amsterdam)

Rosalie Post (Namla)

Birgit Johler (Curator, Volkskundemuseum Graz / Folk Life Museum Graz)

Margret Jäger (EASA Applied Anthropology Network)

Chair: Eckehard Pistrick (Gustav Mahler Private University Klagenfurt)

19:00 Dinner

Saturday, May 17

10:00 - 12:00 Session 3 - Practical and Theoretical Challenges - Thematic Working Groups

Open Sessions with working groups - Presentation of the results at end of session

We invite the participants to work in thematic groups. In this open session, we want to engage with burning topics, such as the increasingly widespread attack on the humanities and social sciences, not only in the USA. What does this mean not only for universities internally, but also for academic and non-academic application? For further thematic groups, we will also revisit questions that have presented themselves on the first day of the workshop.

By confronting these challenges one by one in smaller groups, we hope to advance our debate on doing applied anthropology as a problem-solving and knowledge-generating discipline.

12:00 - 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 - 15:30 Session 4 - Toward a “European” Applied Cultural Analysis?

In this fishbowl-discussion format, we invite the participants to present themselves, their institutions and/or their applied work. By putting the commonalities as well as the heterogeneity of our work and our approaches center stage, we want to approach the question of what a distinctly European applied cultural analysis could be. Is there a specific European contribution to Applied Cultural Analysis? How do the structural conditions of the European academic landscape shape our work and our endeavour? Can the various disciplinary histories be brought together to advance a setting of collaboration and mutual exchange that encompasses the whole of European academic space?

Session 4 - Kick-off discussants:

Stefania Pontrandolfo (Università di Verona / Società italiana di antropologia applicata)

Marta Songin-Mokrzan (Łódź University)

Judith Albrecht (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

Angela Prendl (kontexte. Netzwerk zur Förderung von Kultur- und Sozialwissenschaftler_innen, Wien)

Chair: Marika Pierdicca (Department of Cultural Analysis, University of Klagenfurt)

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 - 17:00 **Final Discussion and Concluding Remarks** - Alexandra Schwell (Department of Cultural Analysis, University of Klagenfurt)

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