



# Wednesday Seminars

SOMMERSEMESTER 2019

## Janet Carsten

*Imagining and Living New Worlds: The Dynamics of Kinship in Contexts of Mobility and Migration*

12.06.2019, 17.00, HS C, IKSA, NIG, Universitätsstraße 7, 1010 Wien, 4. Stock



**Janet Carsten** is Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Edinburgh. Her published work has focussed on kinship, domestic relations, gender, historical migration, the house, adoption reunions, childhood, and

memory. Her most recent completed project has been on ideas about bodily substance, and the interface between popular and medical ideas about blood in Malaysia and Britain. *Blood Work: Lives and Laboratories in Penang* will be published by Duke University Press in 2019. Janet Carsten is currently PI on a new comparative project, 'A Global Anthropology of Transforming Marriage (AGATM), funded by an ERC Advanced Grant. She is a Fellow of the British Academy and of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

This talk will consider kinship in the contexts of movement and migration. Delineating two quite different models of kinship - 'doing' and 'being', the performative and the ascriptive - highlights how mobility and migration are consonant with performative models of kinship. I take movement and migration as a prism to show how kinship provides a uniquely dynamic reservoir of resources to creatively imagine and enable moving to and living in new worlds, both geographically distant and near at hand. Rather than being deviant or an unusual process in the life course, mobility can be seen as enfolded within the capacities that kinship generates. But kinship also provides a repertoire that may promote settlement, and in the conclusion I suggest that both performative and ascriptive models might contribute to an understanding of kinship in the context of migration.

*...kommende Termine*

13.06.2019 **Helena Wulff**