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Institut für Politikwissenschaft



MeSoS Vienna

Department of Methods in the Social Sciences



Institut für

KULTUR- UND SOZIALANTHROPOLOGIE

Department of

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

The section “Ethnography” of the Department of Methods in cooperation with the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, the Department of Political Science, the Department of Development Studies (all at the University of Vienna) invites applications for:

Practices of Care. Inequalities, Empowerment, Contradictions

2nd Vienna Ethnography Lab, 25-27 September 2015

Over the last decades, care has received increasing attention in public discourse and scientific debates. This is not coincidental, but reflects the perception of a shift in the distribution of Care obligations between state, market and families as well as new forms of globalisation and migration. These debates around commodification and commercialisation of reproductive labour surrounded by an aura of crisis embedded in the current demographic trend toward aging societies in particular in the so-called Global North. As a result care has moved from being a concern of mostly feminist researchers to a central topic of various social science disciplines. Besides pointing to various inequalities along the lines of gender, ethnicity/nationality and class, care has been proven useful to explore the intersection of the “public” sphere of economy, and the supposedly private area of kinship.

The laboratory’s goal is to provide a forum for intensive interdisciplinary discussions of young scholars’ ongoing or recently completed research in the field of care. Discussions will focus on intimate care practices that shape specific relations in different settings, and how these in turn influence larger patterns of social organisation on different levels. Possible examples include: practices in medical/clinical settings, care of older people, care migration, relations between state carers and their clients, or care in unexpected constellations such as care between work mates. We invite applications that focus on how such practices challenge or reproduce existing conceptual boundaries between private/public, formal/informal, body and health beyond the global care chain.

The laboratory offers a selected group of advanced PhD students and young post-doctoral scholars (max. 12 participants) the opportunity to discuss their work with 2 distinguished guest scholars and present their findings and ideas at an interdisciplinary forum.

Guest Scholars 2015

Prof. Joan. C. Tronto, Political Science Department, University of Minnesota.
Prof. Michael Fine, Department of Sociology, Macquarie University, Sydney.

Organisers

Prof. Tatjana Thelen (Department of Methods in the Social Sciences)
Prof. Bernhard Hadolt (Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology)
Prof. Petra Dannecker (Department of Development Studies)
Prof. Birgit Sauer (Department of Political Science)

Application

We invite prospective participants to send us their application by 15 April 2015. Applications should include a letter stating the reasons for applying, a short CV, an abstract (250 words maximum) and an outline of research results (up to 5 pages) to be presented at the laboratory. Please send your application to: office.methodenzentrum@univie.ac.at
All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the selection process by mid-May 2015.

Format and Organization

The laboratory is based on the discussion of pre-circulated papers. Participants should hand in their full papers (up to 8000 words excluding the bibliography) by 1 September 2015 to be distributed among all participants. Participants are expected to read all papers in advance and comment at least on one of them during the workshop. The short presentations (10 minutes) will be followed also by guest scholars' comments and intensive discussion. Each day will be opened by a morning session with senior scholars' input.
Coffee breaks and lunches are provided. There are no fees; however please note that we cannot cover travel expenses or accommodation.

Venue

Conference Room of the Department of Methods in the Social Sciences
Rathausstrasse 19/9
1010 Vienna
Austria



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