

Workshops' description & schedual

1st Winter school
CUSO geography

7-9.02.2024
Grand Hôtel des Rasses

	Wednesday February 7	Thursday February 8			Friday February 9		
Dawn 8h00-9h30	WELCOME FROM 10:30am TO 11:30am		Breakfast	<i>Open-air activities (snowshoeing, yoga, taichi, etc.)</i>			
Matin 09h30-12h30	11h30-12h30 <i>Base workshop</i> PUBLICATION/ ACADEMIC CAREER STRATEGY E. Piguet (Unine) + M. Mueller (Unil)	11H30-12H30 WRITING WORKSHOP A E. Strausz (Central European University)	<i>Theoretical workshop</i> URBAN ESTHETICS AND DIGITAL IMAGES Gillian Rose (Oxford University), (O. Söderström (Unine), Juliet Fall (UNIGE))	WRITING WORKSHOP B E. Strausz (Central European University)	<i>Base workshop</i> CONCEPT C. Kull (Unil) + O. Graefe (Unifr)	<i>Thematic workshop</i> HOW DOES THE ENVIRONMENT MOVE GEOGRAPHY? FROM SURVEYING TO PERFORMANCE. Salomon-Cavin (UNIL), H. Dao, A. Choplin (Unige)	<i>Wellness Workshop</i> INEQUALITIES AND POWER DYNAMICS D. Saltiel (Ouimen), (M. Fautras (UNIFR))
Lunch 12h30-14h00	SHARED LUNCH						
Afternoon 14h00-17h	<i>Base workshop</i> PUBLICATION/ ACADEMIC CAREER STRATEGY E. Piguet (Unine) + M. Mueller (Unil)	WRITING WORKSHOP A E. Strausz (Central European University)	<i>Emergent method workshop</i> AN INITIATION TO THE ANALYSIS OF BIG DATA IN GEOGRAPHY P. Törnberg (O. Söderström (Unine))	WRITING WORKSHOP C E. Strausz (Central European University)	Back home		
Aperitif 17h30-19h	KEYNOTE SPEAKER 'IMAGING URBAN LIFE IN DIGITAL TIMES' Gillian Rose (Oxford University)		<i>Open-air activities (snowshoeing, yoga, taichi, etc.)</i>				
DINER 19h-...							

ATELIER PUBLICATION

Organization, responsibility :

Etienne Piguet (UNINE) et Martin Müller (UNIL)

Description :

The workshop addresses the questions of "how", "when" and "where" to publish scientific articles during a thesis. The aim is to compare different experiences and discuss the strategies used to publish scientific articles, mainly in peer-reviewed journals.

Workshop details :

More specifically, the workshop will address the following questions, among others:

- Why publish?
- Publication strategies and how they relate to your professional goals
- Some considerations on the alternative "monograph + article" or "thesis by articles".
- The different forms of articles
- Which journal and which language to choose, at what stage of the thesis?
- Critical overview of journal listings and rankings
- The role of the various players: thesis supervisors, journal editors, reviewers, etc.
- Evaluation grids
- How to (re-)submit and (re-)revise a scientific article?
- How to react to rejections
- Out and done? Post-publication

WRITING WORKSHOP : BEFRIENDING WRITING: PRODUCTIVITY AND CREATIVITY IN SOCIAL RESEARCH

Speaker:

Dr. Erzsébet Strausz is Assistant Professor in the Department of International Relations at Central European University, Vienna. Her research focuses on critical pedagogy, alternative knowledge practices as well as creative and narrative research methods in the study of world politics. She collaborates with artists, NGOs and communities in co-creating processes that empower and connect, leading to new social imaginations and everyday possibilities for more caring presents and futures.

Faculty page: <https://ir.ceu.edu/people/erzsebet-strausz>

Organization, responsibility:

Julie De Dardel (UNIGE), Nicolas Leresche (UNIGE)

Workshop details:

These four workshops offer a series of reflexive practices and transformational processes inspired by critical pedagogy, mindfulness and art-based research for transforming limiting academic habits and in particular, enabling more enriching experiences of PhD dissertation writing.

Befriending writing starts with understanding what doesn't work, where we may feel stuck or constrained, whatever we may be working on. Writing practices introduced in the sessions facilitate deeper insights into our everyday operation, helping to identify suboptimal patterns while they also provide practical suggestions to transform them. Drawing on simple and easy-to-follow techniques, such as guided writing processes, free writing and writing-reflection, we revisit our tasks, challenges, and aspirations with fresh eyes, unlocking new insights, creativity and resourcefulness. With less stress attached to writing we also increase our ability to 'think outside the box' and expand our possibilities for cultivating more inspired and fulfilling research journeys.

The workshop aims to facilitate the following learning outcomes:

- **writing with confidence:** through a range of hands-on techniques, participants learn to release writing blocks and explore how to use writing effectively for their purposes, be that completing a writing project, developing new ideas or unlocking creativity.

- ***personalised guidance and collective support:*** participants are encouraged to bring to the sessions specific questions related to their dissertation writing. The workshops create a safe space for both individual exploration and collective reflection.
- ***progress with dissertation project:*** in each session participants are invited to refocus on their PhD projects in a dedicated time slot and implement the writing practices in their dissertation research and writing.

Details of the workshop:

Befriending Writing consists of the following sequence of workshops, each of which provides writing practices and guidance as well as dedicated time to work on a project at hand:

Workshop A, Reconnecting with the spark (60 minutes)

Introductions and guided writing process.

Workshop A, Writing as discovery (180 minutes)

The first part of the session engages various aspects of writing, offering new perspectives on what writing can ‘do’ and encouraging participants to design or refine the working/writing method that serves their aims. In the second part of the session participants refocus on their PhD/ writing project of their choice.

Required reading:

- A selection of short vignettes from Sacks, Shelley, and Wolfgang Zumdick. *Atlas of the Poetic Continent: Pathways in Ecological Citizenship*. Forest Row: Temple Lodge Publishing, 2013.

It is possible to take both part of the workshop A, separately

Workshop B, Transforming writing blocks (180 minutes)

The first part of the session offers a guided ‘diagnostic’ process to map out and transform writing blocks and limiting academic habits. In the second part of the session participants refocus on their PhD/ writing project of their choice.

Required reading:

- Löwenheim, Oded. 2010. “The ‘I’ in IR: An Autoethnographic Account.” *Review of International Studies* 36, (4): 1023-1045.

- Chapter TBC from Strausz, E. *Writing the Self and Transforming Knowledge in International Relations: Towards a Politics of Liminality*, London: Routledge, 2018.

Workshop C Unlocking creativity (180 minutes)

Through a series of creative and experimental practices, the first part of the session expands the horizons of imagination of what we may bring out of a project at hand. In the second part of the session participants refocus on their PhD/ writing project of their choice.

Required reading:

- Ulmer, Jasmine B. 2017. “Writing Slow Ontology.” *Qualitative Inquiry* 23, (3): 201–211.
- short chapter TBC from Strausz, Erzsebet (forthcoming) *Curating Learning Journeys: Transformational Experiences in the IR classroom and beyond*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Registered participants will be asked to complete a brief survey before the Winter School with regards to their research processes, flagging any issue-areas where they would like to receive specific guidance or suggestions.

Attendance of all sessions is recommended to benefit fully from the sequence of writing practices

KEYNOTE 'IMAGING URBAN LIFE IN DIGITAL TIMES'

Speaker:

Prof Gillian Rose (Oxford University)

Professor Gillian Rose joined the School of Geography and the Environment in 2017, moving here from The Open University. She was Head of School from 2019 to 2022.

Gillian was awarded her PhD from the University of London in 1990 and has also taught at the University of London and Edinburgh University. She was Andrew W Mellon Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the University of Pretoria in 2015, and the Ander Visiting Professor of Geomedia at Lund University 2018-19. She was Associate Dean (Research) in the Faculty of Social Sciences at The Open University. In 2015 she was elected a fellow of the British Academy, and in 2018 became a fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Gillian is a cultural geographer. Although her empirical research interests have shifted over time, a central theme has been the techniques and politics of knowledge production about places. Her longest-running project is the book *Visual Methodologies: An Introduction to Researching with Visual Materials*; its fifth edition was published in 2022.

Research Interests

Gillian's first book was *Feminism and Geography: The Limits to Geographical Knowledge* (1993). In it, she explored questions surrounding the politics of knowledge production in relation to the discipline of geography itself. The book is a poststructural critique of masculinist geographies and made a significant contribution to the emergence of feminist geography.

As part of the work for *Feminism and Geography*, she drew heavily on various feminist theorisations of visuality, and since then her work has been in dialogue with various aspects of contemporary everyday visual culture. She has written on community arts projects, family photography and the visual experiencing of urban places like high streets and shopping malls. More recently her work has focussed on the visual mediation of urban spaces by digital technologies.

Her interest in the intersection of digital technologies, visuals and urban spaces was sparked by an ESRC-funded project with Monica Degen and Clare Melhuish a decade ago, which was a two-year ethnographic study of computer-generated images and their role in the architectural design process. Subsequently she led the ESRC-funded project 'Smart cities in the making: learning from Milton Keynes', which explored a wide range of digital interventions in MK and how they intervened in the social geography of the city. This work culminated in a book co-authored with Monica Degen, *The New Urban Aesthetic: Digital Experiences of Urban Change* (2022).

Her current work has two focii. One is a project called 'Animating Urbanism'. It explores how the spatial and temporal organisation of cities is being shifted by various uses of digital visualising technologies, from augmented reality apps on smartphones to VFX effects in movies to the fly-throughs created for urban planners and developers. She is particularly interested in how different kinds of embodied experiences are

produced in these visualisations. The open-access edited collection [*Seeing the City Digitally: Processing Urban Space and Time*](#) (2022) is the first contribution to this project.

The second is the research project on 'Trust and visibility: everyday digital practices'. Funded by the CHANSE ERA-NET Co-fund programme with the ESRC, which has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme (Grant Agreement no 101004509), and led by Professor Katrin Tiidenberg at the University of Tallin, Estonia, it is a 3-year qualitative research project looking at health-related images on social media. It examines what images are trusted by young people across Europe, how health influencers try to create trust-worthy images, and what role the different platform affordances play. Follow TRAVIS on Twitter [@researchTRAVIS](#).

Organization, responsibility :

Ola Söderström (UNINE), Juliet Fall (UNIGE)

Workshop details:

Prof. Gillian Rose will discuss themes from her recent work on the visual, digital images and urban space. Further details to follow.

URBAN ESTHETICS AND DIGITAL IMAGES

Speaker:

Prof Gillian Rose (Oxford University)

Organization, responsibility:

Ola Söderström (UNINE), Juliet Fall (UNIGE)

Workshop details:

The February 8 workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss the problems, questions and solutions sought or found by doctoral students in the mobilization of visual materials for their doctoral thesis, whether these materials are used as data for analysis or representations of situations or research results.

When registering, participants will be asked to indicate the themes, questions, solutions and forms of visual mobilization they would like to address during the workshop. They will be asked to bring materials (or specific questions) for discussion at the workshop. On this basis, the workshop organizers will form groups and seek to identify cross-cutting themes.

During the workshop, participants will be invited to briefly present (5' per person) these materials and to react to other participants' presentations. Gillian Rose will bring her long experience of visual studies to the workshop.

AN INITIATION TO THE ANALYSIS OF BIG DATA IN GEOGRAPHY

Speaker:

Prof. Petter Törnberg, University of Amsterdam

Petter Törnberg is Assistant Professor at the Institute for Language, Logic and Computation at the University of Amsterdam, Associate Professor in Complex Systems at Chalmers University of Technology, NWO VENI laureate, and senior researcher at the University of Neuchâtel. His research focuses on the intersection of AI, social media, and politics, using digital data and computational methods for critical research that contributes to social scientific theory.

He has published over 40 peer-reviewed papers and chapters, in journals such as PNAS, New Media & Society, and Big Data & Society.

Expertise and research fields

- Social media
- AI
- Large Language Models
- Mediatisation
- (Affective) polarisation
- Platformisation
- Political communication
- Online radicalisation
- Misinformation

Current research projects

I am engaged in several current research projects on the relationship between social media and affective polarization, AI, the ongoing shifts in platformisation, and urban mediatisation.

Organization, responsibility:

Ola Söderström (UNINE)

Description :

In this workshop, we will get hands-on experience with working with digital text data and natural language processing to answer questions in geography. We will learn how to gather digital data and what databases are available. We will then use Large Language Models to analyze textual data, and see how these models can be integrated in a social scientific research process.

Workshop details:

The workshop is organized in 2 parts:

1. An introduction to data collection methods (webscraping, APIs, etc.)
2. Group use of Large Language Models to analyze textual data.

Participants will read a text in preparation for the workshop and will indicate a few weeks before the workshop a question they would like to see addressed with large database analysis. For the second phase of the workshop, they will choose a database from those prepared by Petter Törnberg and work in groups to analyze the data.

CONCEPT WORKSHOP

Speakers:

Christian Kull (UNIL), Olivier Graefe (UNIFR)

Description:

During this workshop you will present one (or possibly several) concepts(s) that you find useful for your dissertation work, and discuss the concepts of other doctoral researchers.

On the one hand, the aim is to carry out an 'archaeology' of your concept, showing how it has been 'consolidated' (or, on the contrary, deconstructed) by debates in geography and other disciplines over time. On the other hand, the aim is to show how the concept could function (or is already functioning) as an operative concept for the methodological and empirical work of your research, and how it can add value to the understanding and study of the subject.

Workshop details:

Participants write and present a brief summary of a concept used in their thesis in order to stimulate discussion among all participants. The summary is circulated to all participants in advance so that everyone can prepare for the discussion.

HOW DOES THE ENVIRONMENT MOVE GEOGRAPHY? FROM SURVEYING TO PERFORMANCE.

Speakers :

Armelle Choplin (UNIGE), Hy Dao (UNIGE), Joëlle Salomon Cavin (UNIL)

Description :

This practical and methodological workshop based on texts and visuals will culminate in a collective artistic creation questioning the place of the environment in geography. This workshop proposes a reflection on the place of the environmental question in geography, and how it is profoundly transforming the discipline, in terms of themes, approaches and ways of thinking about the world.

This reflection is proposed on the basis of a survey of texts and visuals, and a collective creative production. The approach is intended to be experimental.

Détails du déroulement de l'atelier:

The workshop will take place in 2 stages:

1) Surveying

First, participants will be invited to take part in a survey of texts and visuals. Each participant is asked to bring along an extract from a text (scientific, literary, poetry - one page...) or a visual (photo, map, diagram, drawing...) that makes sense to them when it comes to environmental issues and geography. Participants will explore the materials individually before giving feedback to others on what these texts and visuals inspire in them.

2) Creation

In a second phase, participants will be invited to produce a collective project to disseminate scientific knowledge in an unconventional way. This collective creation can take a material form (collage of texts/visuals, drawings, writing) or an immaterial one (work around a dance, music, choreography or scenography...) allowing a performative restitution of the debates around environmental questions in geography, notably evoked during the survey.

FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION: NAVIGATING POWER RELATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN ACADEMIA

Speaker:

David Saliel, Consultant et directeur de Ouimen.ch (<https://www.ouimen.ch>)

Organization, responsibility:

Mathilde Fautras, (UNIFR)

Description:

Power relationships run through our society and are particularly prevalent in the academic world, due in part to the social prestige of the institution and the high proportion of people employed on fixed-term and/or precarious contracts. This workshop aims to provide a framework for highlighting how these power relations materialize in our professional interactions (e.g. at conferences or in the field), and for implementing concrete actions to limit their impact. The aim is to develop transversal relational and leadership skills, in order to foster a safer, more diversity-inclusive working environment.

Détails du déroulement de l'atelier:

- Thematic introduction
- Based on concrete situations provided by the participants, group discussion on the various ways of acting to promote more inclusive interactions based on the diversity of individuals.
- Feedback from participants on group discussions, conclusion on key points and tools