

CUSO DOCTORAL PROGRAM
IN GEOGRAPHY
WINTER SCHOOL
5-7 FEBRUARY 2025

Grand-Hôtel des Rasses***

**Sainte-Croix 1452 Vaud,
Switzerland**



General Instructions

Grand Hôtel des Rasses
Route des Alpes 25
1452 Les Rasses/ Ste-Croix, VD
Suisse

www.grandhotelrasses.ch

www.instagram.com/grand_hotel_rasses

Free access to Pool - Spa - Fitness at Grand Hôtel des Rasses

In addition to your work equipment for the workshops, bring **comfortable clothing (yoga, fitness), a bathing suit (swimming pool, spa) and warm clothing (snow activities)**, as well as **an identity document** for registration at the hotel.

The Winter School workshops start Wednesday 5 February **at 11.30am** and closes Friday 7 after lunch.

Please make sure to arrive at least 45 minutes prior to your workshop, in order to check in at the reception first.

Contact for questions or emergencies:

nicolas.leresche@unige.ch (+41 76 616 82 72)

laura.pierini@unil.ch (+41 76 383 27 93)



**GRAND HÔTEL
DES RASSES**

Dimitri BEZ



Arrival Instructions

Train:

Train from Yverdon-les-Bains to Sainte-Croix and then take a bus to Les Rasses-Grand Hôtel

On Wednesday 5 February, we have booked a **special bus from Sainte-Croix (train station) to Grand Hotel des Rasses leaving at 10.10 am** (no regular bus from 8.30 to 11.30). Most Winter School participants should take the train arriving at Sainte-Croix at 10.06 am (**departure from Yverdon-les-Bains at 09.33 am**).

If you wish to use this special bus at 10.10 am, please register before the 31st of January here:
<https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/aQj2G1lb>
(we need to confirm the number of passengers).

Car:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/pPvDDS9mDPCFHRrz9>

Caution: there is a 45-minutes walk from the train station to the hotel. To avoid problems, plan your train-bus connections in advance.

*Taxi or Uber available (5 minutes journey to the hotel) but at your expense - **not refundable by CUSO***

Departure Instructions

Bus – Train Connection :

Les Rasses, Grand-Hôtel – Ste-Croix gare

12:36 — 12:45 (9 min.)



13:06 — 13:15 (9 min.)



15:37 — 15:46 (9 min.)



13:57 — 14:06 (9 min.)



16:00 — 16:09 (9 min.)



Caution: there is a 45-minutes walk from the train station to the hotel. To avoid problems, plan your train-bus connections in advance.

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Winter School 2025 CUSO Geography	PROGRAM OVERVIEW (workshops, organizers/instructors)
General organisation	Nicolas Leresche (UNIGE, CUSO Coordinator), Florie Bresteaux (UNIGE), Mathilde Marendaz (UNIGE), Antoine Dubiau (UNIGE), Yamina Sam (UNIGE), Nadira Mukhamejan (UNIGE), Laura Pierini (UNIL)
Special evening	Ola Söderström <i>Founder and travelling companion of the doctoral program CUSO-Geo, leading figure of Swiss geography... On the eve of his retirement!</i> "master of ceremony": Julie de Dardel
Core Workshops	Publication and academic career strategy Prof. Etienne Piguet (UNINE) Prof. Martin Müller (UNIL)
	Concept Speaker: Olivier Graefe (UNIFR)
Thematic/Theoretical Workshops	Urban Political Ecology at the crossroads Prof. Armelle Choplin, (UNIGE) Prof. Henrik Ernstson (KTH Royal Institute of Technology à Stockholm)
	Urban Political Ecology through Visual Methodologies Prof. Henrik Ernstson (KTH Royal Institute of Technology à Stockholm)
	Border Forensics Prof. Charles Heller (UNIBE), Elio Panese (UNIL)
Methods and Skills Workshops	Radical and Transforming Pedagogies in Human Geography Prof. Amy Ritterbusch (UCLA)
	After thesis. Career opportunities outside the academy Speaker: Caroline Betto-Colliard (UniNe CUSO), Lionel Gauthier (Directeur Musée du Léman), Yann Dubois (Chef de projet, Bureau Mobil'homme)
	Writing workshop
Screening	<i>The Lindeka: When a City Ate a Book</i> (64 min, 2023) A cinematic ethnography and essay film created by Jacob von Heland and Henrik Ernstson in collaboration with Anita Mkizwana and Philisiwe Twijnstra
Social game	Quiz and Blind test
Yoga Workshop	Provided by UNIGE
Pool – Spa – Fitness	Free access at Grand Hôtel des Rasses. Opening hours : W 8:15 am - 20:00 pm, Th 8:15 am – 22:00pm, F 8:15 am - 9:00 am & 10:00 am – 22:00 pm
<i>NB: General information on guest speakers and workshops' contents at the end of the program. Detailed instructions for preparing for the workshops were sent by email to participants directly by the workshops organisers.</i>	

Scientific activities Timetable

Wednesday 5 February

Wednesday 5 February 10.30-11.20	Arrival Check-in at hotel reception		
Wednesday 5 February 11.30-12.30 + 14.00-17.00	Publication and academic career strategy	Radical and Transforming Pedagogies in Human Geography	Concept
Organisers	Martin Müller et Etienne Piguet	Julie de Dardel et Isabelle Schoepfer	Antoine Dubiau
Room	114	Salle Balcon du Jura	Salle Mont Blanc
Wednesday 5 February 17.30-19.00	Celebrating Ola Söderström Salle Balcon du Jura		
Wednesday 5 February From 20.00	Screening <i>The Lindeka: When a City Ate a Book</i> (66 min, 2023, SVA-AAA Toronto) Salle Balcon du Jura		

Rez inférieur: Restaurant; bar; salle Mont-Blanc; salle Balcon du Jura

1^{er} étage: Salle 27; Salon de l'hôtel (afternoon coffee breaks)

4^e étage: salle 117; salle 114

Scientific activities Timetable

Thursday 6 February

Thursday 6 February 9.30-12.30	After thesis. Career opportunities outside the academy	Urban political ecology at the crossroads	
Organisers	Patrick Rérat, Laura Pierini	Antoine Dubiau, Mathilde Marendaz	
Room	114	Salle Balcon du Jura	
Thursday 6 February 14.00-17.00	After thesis. Career opportunities outside the academy	Urban political ecology through visual methodologies	Self-managed writing session
Organisers	Patrick Rérat, Laura Pierini	Antoine Dubiau, Mathilde Marendaz	Nicolas Lersche
Room	114	Salle Balcon du Jura	Salle Mont-Blanc

Scientific activities Timetable

Friday 7 February

Friday 7 February 09.30-12.30	Self-managed writing session	Border Forensic
Organisers	Nicolas Lersche	Ola Söderström, Estelle Sohier, Yamina Sam
Room	Salle Mont-Blanc	Salle Balcon du Jura

LEISURE ACTIVITIES AND MEALS

(NB: Winterschool starts Wednesday 7 at 11.30 and closes Friday at 14.00)

YOGA CLASS 7.00-8.15 (Thursday and Friday)	Salle Mont Blanc
BREAKFAST From 7.00 (Thursday and Friday)	Hôtel Restaurant "La Belle Époque" Served for guests who spent the previous night at the hotel
LUNCH 12.40 (each day)	Hôtel Restaurant "La Belle Époque" Starter + main course (pastry served during the coffee break in the afternoon) <i>NB: Mineral water and hot drink included in lunch - additional requests are at the guests' expense</i>
COFFEE BREAK Approx. 15.30 (Wednesday and Thursday)	Salon de l'hôtel (1st floor) Mini-pastries, fruit basket, juices and hot drinks.
DINNER 19.30 (Wednesday and Thursday)	Hôtel Restaurant "La Belle Époque" Full menu (Starter + main course + dessert) <i>NB: Mineral water and hot drink included in dinner - additional requests (wine, others) are at the guests' expense</i>
POOL, SPA (hammam, sauna) and FITNESS	Free access for hotel guests (open 8.30 to 22.00)
JEU-APERO 18.30 (Thursday)	Quiz and Blind test Bar ou Salle Mont Blanc
OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES	Luges, rackets and Nordic skis for hire in the village - otherwise bring your own material

CUSO financial support and transport refund process

- Night in double room with breakfast, meals and transport (train 2nd class + demi-tarif) are covered by the CUSO Program.
- Additional cost for **individual room** is to be payed directly at the hotel (+42,50 CHF/night).
- **Additional beverage** (including alcoholic drinks) or other orders are at the guests' expense, to be payed directly at the hotel.
- Cancellation policy: You may cancel your registration free of charge until 24 January 2024. **After this date, in case of a no-show and without a medical certificate, you may be charged your hotel costs.**

Online refund request form via your personal profile on CUSO website:

<https://geographie.cuso.ch/mycuso/profile/travel-cost>

Procedure:

Upon receipt of the attendance list bearing your signature, your participation will be validated by CUSO and the online form will become available on your personal profile (MyCUSO account).

The possibility of requesting the reimbursement expires 21 days after the workshop. We advise you to check your myCUSO account regularly in the days following the Winter School.

The reimbursement covers **the round trip journey in train, 2nd class, half-fare**, between the city of the institution to which you are affiliated and the location of the activity.

Special evening



Special evening for Ola Söderström, founder and travelling companion of the doctoral program CUSO-Geo, leading figure of Swiss geography... On the eve of his retirement!

Maitresse de cérémonie : Julie de Dardel

Essential figure in contemporary social and urban geography and a founding force behind the CUSO doctoral school since its inception, Professor Ola Söderström is retiring at the beginning of 2025. In this engaging discussion, we will invite him to reflect on his career and share his perspective on the challenges facing the discipline today.

Workshops



PUBLICATION AND ACADEMIC CAREER STRATEGY

Speakers: Prof. Etienne Piguet (UNINE) et Prof. 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.

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.

CONCEPT

Speaker : Prof. 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.

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.

AFTER THESIS

Speakers: Caroline Betto-Colliard, directrice adjointe CUSO, Yann Dubois, Chef de projet Mobil'homme, Lionel Gauthier, Director of the Musée du Léman.

Description :

The workshop aims to provide PhD students with employment perspectives beyond the academic world and showcase the diversity of professional opportunities in both the public and private sectors, in Switzerland and abroad. It will focus on the skills developed during the doctoral years and how to highlight them in the professional sphere.

BORDER FORENSICS. SOURCES AND METHODS FOR INVESTIGATING BORDER VIOLENCE

Speaker: Prof. Charles Heller (Universität Bern), and Elio Panese (Border Forensic)

Description :

This workshop will be structured in three parts. Charles Heller will present the approach to critical forensic analysis developed by the Forensic Architecture agency, and how it has been adapted to analyze border violence, first in the context of the Forensic Oceanography project (2011-2021), and then with the Border Forensics research and investigation agency set up in Geneva in 2021, of which he is founder and research director. Charles Heller will talk about the innovative methods created and mobilized by Border Forensics to collect data on various forms of border violence, to analyze heterogeneous and disparate data, and to format them using cartographic tools in particular, in order to inform the general public and take legal action.

Secondly, Elio Panese, a researcher with Border Forensics and a doctoral student at UNIL, will present his research into the violence of the asylum system in Switzerland and the ways in which it can be made visible.

Finally, the last part of the workshop will be devoted to a practical exercise inviting PhD students to reflect on situations of concealed violence and the sources that can be mobilized to make them visible.

URBAN POLITICAL ECOLOGY THROUGH VISUAL METHODOLOGIES

Speakers : Prof. Henrik Ernstson (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm) and Prof. Armelle Chopin (UNIGE)

Description :

In this workshop, Henrik Ernstson and Armelle Choplin invite us to share their theoretical and methodological perspectives on their research into urban political ecology in various African cities. Through the reading of articles from the book co-edited by Henrik Ernstson and Erik Swyngedouw, 'Urban Political Ecology in the Anthro-obscene Interruptions and Possibilities' (2019), we will address the key concepts and authors of situated urban political ecology, highlighting the value of historical-geographical methods while connecting to dynamic debates on racialization, the origins of capitalism and the plantation as a territorial marker prefiguring or tracing the way capital organizes labor, land and nature. We will also discuss concepts from Armelle Choplin's theoretical work on the urban (planetary urbanization or the ecologization of the urban as seen from the South) developed in West Africa. In particular, she will highlight her methodological approach to circulation, through the example of her work on building materials, demonstrating how products such as cement circulate through transnational networks and contribute to shaping urban spaces, according to her book "Concrete Cit".

URBAN POLITICAL ECOLOGY AT THE CROSSROADS

Speakers : Prof. Henrik Ernstson (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm) and Prof. Armelle Chopin (UNIGE)

Description :

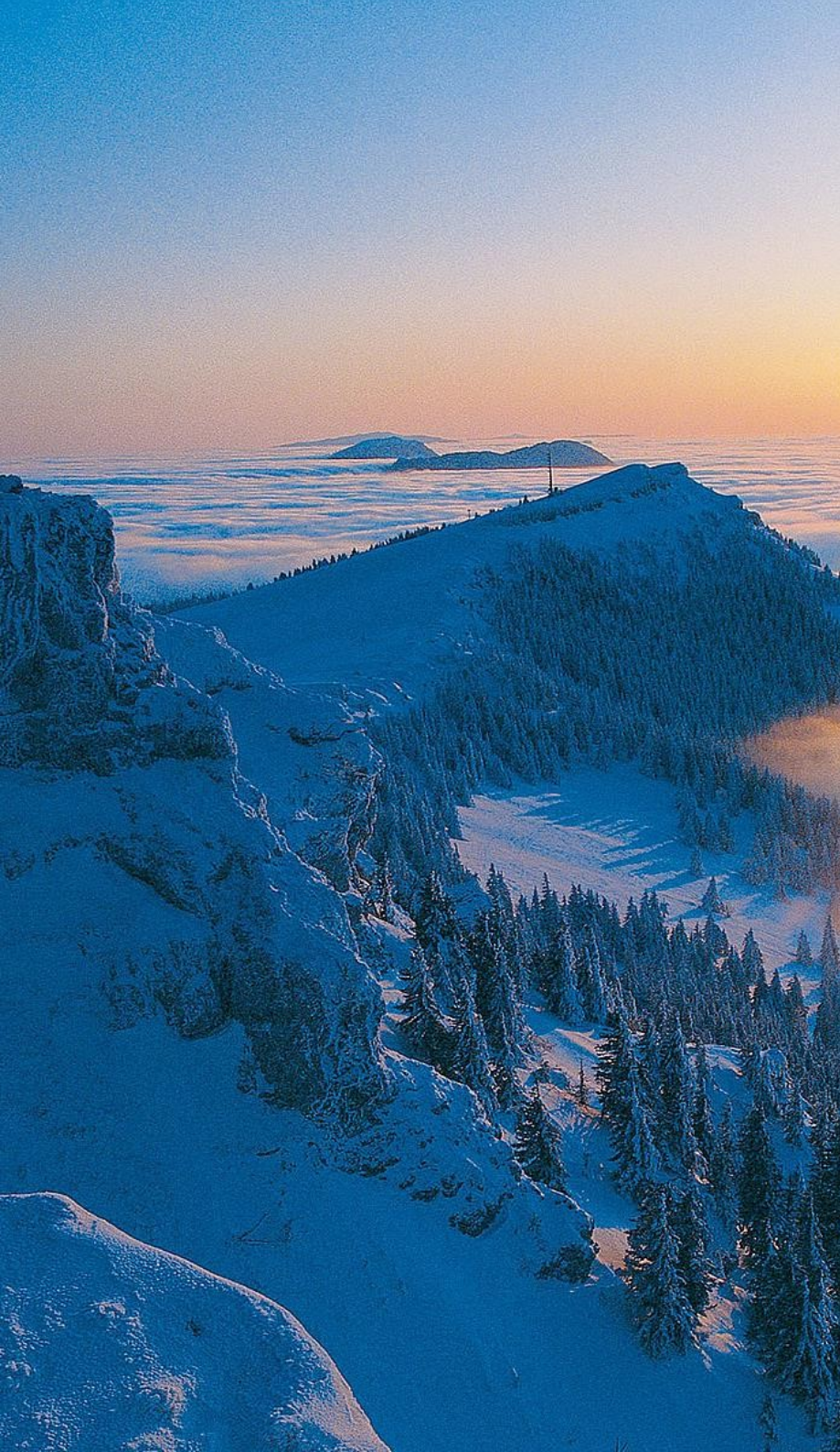
This is a cross-disciplinary activity based on theoretical and methodological scientific content. We will discuss the speaker's scientific work around situated urban political ecology, and his visual methodological work. The viewing of one or two of his films ('One Table Two Elephants' (2018) and 'The Lindeka' (2023) (<https://www.situatedecologies.net/films/>)) and the reading of various articles from his book co-edited with Erik Swyngedouw, 'Urban Political Ecology in the Anthro-obsene Interruptions and Possibilities' (2019), will be requested in anticipation of the workshop, in order to form a discussion centered on (i) film as a method of theoretical production and geographical imagination, and (ii) key concepts and authors.

RADICAL AND TRANSFORMING PEDAGOGIES IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Speaker: Prof. Amy Ritterbusch, University of California in Los Angeles

Description :

The workshop "Radical and Transforming Pedagogies in Human Geography" delves into innovative educational strategies aimed at emancipation, as well as social and spatial justice. It explores collective approaches to research and teaching that actively involve communities, fostering collaboration and shared knowledge production. Participants will engage with methods that challenge traditional academic frameworks and promote transformative learning. The focus is on radical pedagogies that not only educate but also empower learners and communities to enact change.



See you there!