

PARTICIPATORY DIGITAL ETHNOGRAPHY

ONLINE MASTER CLASS

Taught by
Darcy Alexandra (University of Bern) and Koen Leurs (Utrecht University)

Organized by
the Digital Ethnography Initiative, Vienna Visual Anthropology Lab, and Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna, and the Visual Studies Platform at the Central European University.

The Master Class is directed at PhD or advanced Master students in anthropology, who are interested in participatory approaches and have started to develop their own projects. The discussion will especially focus on the use of digital, visual, or multimodal methods in participatory research.

The Master Class will be held online on November 9 and 10, 2021. During a public co-lecture on November 9 (17.30 – 19.00 hrs.), the two guest lecturers will introduce their views on participatory research with examples from their own research. The next morning, on November 10 (9.00 – 12.00 hrs.), the two guest lecturers will interact with a small group of 6-8 graduate students. During this interactive workshop, students will share their ideas about or experiences with participatory research, and the challenges they face – for example, in implementing participatory research approaches under the present conditions of the pandemic. The guest speakers provide feedback on the students' projects and initiate a discussion on methodology among the participants.

Herewith, we invite **advanced Master students** in the anthropology department of the University of Vienna to join the workshop on November 10. If you are implementing participatory and/or digital methods in an ethnographic research project for your Master thesis, please submit a brief expression of interest (1/2 page) before **September 10**. On October 1, you will be informed if you can participate. You will then be invited to submit a 5-page project description, which will be read by the lecturers Darcy Alexandra and Koen Leurs before the workshop so that we can have an in-depth conversation.



Darcy Alexandra is a lecturer and researcher at the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern, Switzerland. She has conducted co-creative ethnographic research projects and workshops with newcomer communities, in particular, political asylum seekers, refugees, and undocumented migrants. Drawing from poetry, creative non-fiction, moving and still image, she develops participatory modes of digital storytelling and mentors learning partners in representing their lived experiences and knowledge.



Koen Leurs is an assistant professor in Gender and Postcolonial Studies at the Department of Media and Culture, Utrecht University, the Netherlands. His research focus is on digital migration. His participatory action research project seeks to enhance media literacy and critical consciousness of young migrants through media production – particularly of refugees, who are commonly the object of stereotypical visual media representation.

Best wishes,
Monika Palmberger, Sanderien Verstappen, Vlad Naumescu

DEADLINES FOR PARTICIPANTS:

10 September: Expression of interest

Submit a **½ page** description of your interest in participatory research before September 10. Include the objective of your (planned) research project, the PhD/Ma programme you are in, and the name of the department/university (CEU/University of Vienna). Based on the submitted abstracts, 6-8 participants will be selected (decision: October 1).

25 October: Position paper

The selected participants submit a **5-page** description of their research project before October 25. This includes a more elaborate description of your research project, your perspective on participatory research, and the challenges you face in implementing it. The lecturers Koen Leurs and Darcy Alexandra will read your paper before the start of the workshop, and they will give you individual feedback.

Please send your submissions to: monika.palmberger@univie.ac.at

EVENTS:

9 November (17.30-19.00 hrs): Public lecture by Darcy Alexandra (University of Bern) and Koen Leurs (Utrecht University), followed by a conversation.

10 November (9.00-12.00 hrs): Workshop for selected PhD students and advanced Master students, with Darcy Alexandra, Koen Leurs, Monika Palmberger, Sanderien Verstappen, and Vlad Naumescu.

Both events will take place online.