

Transformative human-environment research & participatory methods: From co-production to co-producing

Berlin, 16 – 21 September 2019

IRI THESys offices, 4th Floor,
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Rationale

Human-environment research is the interdisciplinary study of how humans live in, affect, govern, reflect upon and perceive their natural environment, and how, in turn, that environment supports or constrains human life and culture. This research draws much of its legitimacy from being relevant for the very organisation of human-environment relations themselves. Considerable effort is thus invested in understanding pressing societal challenges such as sustainable development, climate change adaptation, land competition, biodiversity conservation and water, food and energy security, to name a few. Yet, researchers are increasingly mandated to engage more actively with politics and the plurality of epistemologies and perspectives on these challenges that exist in society. So, how may human-environment research take an active role in transformative research for and with society?

This is the overall question for this summer school, which will be addressed by applying science and technology studies (STS) and political ecology perspectives to participants' own cases as well as getting first hands-on experience with transdisciplinary research methods. First, drawing on STS, we will discuss how human-environment research is *co-produced* (passive voice) through its historical interplay with culture, politics, economy and technology. The participants will appreciate how any prevalent knowledge could have turned out differently had other cultural, political, economic and technological factors dominated in its production. Second, drawing on political ecology, we will discuss how this prevalent knowledge is always contested, overtly or not, by alternative framings, and how people are implicated by this knowledge that had no say in its production. Recognising this democratic deficit in knowledge production will provide us with arguments for opening up human-environment research to those different framings, alternative knowledges and implications that exist. Thus, in the remainder of the summer school, we will learn transdisciplinary methods for *co-producing* (active voice) knowledge between academics and actors outside the academy.

The participants will bring their own cases in the form of posters to the summer school, where the cases will react in structured discussions and exercises with the theories and methods offered by international lecturers of STS, political ecology and transdisciplinary research.

Application procedure

Applications are invited from highly-motivated international doctoral researchers from outside Germany (German nationals and foreign students residing in Germany are not eligible). Applicants will be working in fields such as geography, environmental science, anthropology, development studies, agricultural science, political science, institutional economics and applied philosophy, conducting research on human-environment relations.

The Summer School is free of charge, including materials, lunch and coffee breaks. Accommodation as well as transport to and from Berlin will be paid.

Numbers are limited, so recruitment will be by refereed selection. Experience with transdisciplinary/participatory methods is not a selection criterion, but motivation should be visible.

Required documents for application are:

- ▶ Application form*
- ▶ Letter of Motivation*
- ▶ Curriculum Vitae

*download templates here: <https://www.iri-thesys.org/events/summer-school/2019/methods>

Please send your application documents by email to kathrin.klementz@hu-berlin.de by **15 April 2019** 9pm GMT. Applications received afterwards will not be considered. We hope to let you know the outcome of the selection process by 15 May 2019.

Student Work

You are required to prepare a poster and read about six texts in preparation of the course. The reading is uploaded in the Dropbox folder *THESys Summer School 2019*, subdirectory *Reading*. You will be invited to join this Dropbox group once you have been confirmed as participant.

On Dropbox you will also find poster templates in the *Poster* subdirectory. Please use one of the templates. Upload your finished poster in the *Poster* subdirectory no later than Monday 19 August 2019. This is in order to have the posters printed in time – we will take care of this.

The poster session will be on Monday 15.00-17.00. You will be allocated 2min to present. The idea is that people first walk from poster to poster and then mingle to familiarise themselves with each other's research. The posters will be present throughout the course and we will come back to them as required for the exercises.

Please make sure the following information is on your poster:

- ▶ PhD working title
- ▶ Place of research
- ▶ Topic of research
- ▶ Main research question
- ▶ Methodology
- ▶ Who you interact with outside academia as part of your research (if you do)

Please try and make your poster understandable for researchers from other disciplines.

Last but not least, bring a critical, engaged mind and a willingness to ask questions, discuss, reflect and learn!

Contact

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Programme

Mon, 16 Sep	
10.30-11.00	Registration & coffee
11.00-12.00	Introduction, motivation, the “story” through the week, organisational matters Prof. Tobias Krüger, IRI THESys
12.00-13.00	Lunch break
13.00-15.00	Research & work opportunities in Germany HU’s International Scholar Service
15.00-16.00	Coffee & PhD poster walk-through (2min presentation per poster)
16.00-17.00	Poster session
	Optional dinner

Tue, 17 Sep	
09.00-10.30	The co-production of science & social order Prof. Jörg Niewöhner, IRI THESys Reading: Hacking, I. (2007), Kinds of People: Moving Targets, Proceedings of the British Academy, 151, 285-318.
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-12.30	The co-production of science & social order Small group discussion & plenary feedback: Application to own cases
12.30-13.30	Lunch break
13.30-15.30	The democratic deficit of co-production Prof. Tobias Krüger, IRI THESys Small group discussion & plenary feedback: Application to own cases From co-production to co-producing: Participation, transdisciplinarity, citizen science Reading: Krueger, T., C. Maynard, G. Carr, A. Bruns, E. N. Mueller, and S. Lane (2016), A transdisciplinary account of water research, Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Water, 3, 369-389.
15.30-16.00	Coffee break
16.00-17.00	Modes & logics of transdisciplinary research Prof. Tobias Krüger, IRI THESys Small group discussion & plenary feedback: Application to own cases Reading: Krueger, T., C. Maynard, G. Carr, A. Bruns, E. N. Mueller, and S. Lane (2016), A transdisciplinary account of water research, Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Water, 3, 369-389.
	Guided Tour: Berlin Wall Memorial, Bernauer Straße Optional dinner

Wed, 18 Sep	
09.00-12.30	Excursion to Spreewald – a unique historical cultural landscape under transformation Visit of ' <i>ginkoo</i> ' project led by Dr Bettina König, IRI THESys Familiarisation with role play setting for Thursday
12.30-13.30	Lunch on site
13.30-17.00	Traditional punt boat trip Return to Berlin
	Optional dinner

Thu, 19 Sep	
09.00-11.00	<p>Transdisciplinary methods: System, target & action knowledge</p> <p>Dr Bettina König, IRI THESys</p> <p>System knowledge: Participatory situation analysis</p> <p>Role play: Introduction picking up on excursion & development of roles</p> <p>Reading:</p> <p>Lang, D. J., A. Wiek, M. Bergmann, M. Stauffacher, P. Martens, P. Moll, M. Swilling, and C. J. Thomas (2012), Transdisciplinary research in sustainability science: practice, principles, and challenges, Sustainability Science, 7(1), 25-43.</p>
11.00-11.30	Coffee break
11.30-13.00	<p>System knowledge: Participatory Situation Analysis</p> <p>Role play: Application to case (session 1)</p>
13.00-14.00	Lunch break
14.00-15.30	<p>System knowledge: Participatory Situation Analysis</p> <p>Role play: Application to case (session 2)</p>
15.30-16.00	Coffee break
16.00-17.00	<p>Reflection on role play</p> <p>Prof. Tobias Krüger, IRI THESys</p> <p>Small group discussion & plenary feedback</p>
	<p>Experiences of international researchers in Germany</p> <p>Dinner with international IRI THESys researchers (PhDs, Postdocs, Professors)</p>

Fri, 20 Sep	
09.00-11.00	Target knowledge: Multi Criteria Mapping Josie Coburn, University of Sussex, UK Theory & demonstration Reading: Stirling, A., and S. Mayer (2001), A Novel Approach to the Appraisal of Technological Risk: A Multicriteria Mapping Study of a Genetically Modified Crop, Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy, 19(4), 529-555.
11.00-11.30	Coffee break
11.30-13.00	Target knowledge: Multi Criteria Mapping Role play: Application to case (10 pairs of students, interview 1)
13.00-14.00	Lunch break
14.00-15.30	Target knowledge: Multi Criteria Mapping Role play: Application to case (10 pairs of students, interview 2)
15.30-16.00	Coffee break
18.00-19.30	Public fishbowl discussion with course participants & teachers: What role for scientists in transforming human-environment relations
	Optional dinner

Sat, 21 Sep	
09.00-10.30	Synthesis of role play results & next steps Josie Coburn, University of Sussex, UK
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-12.00	Reflection on role play Prof. Tobias Krüger, IRI THESys Small group discussion & plenary feedback
12.00-13.00	Lunch break
13.00-14.30	Synthesis & feedback (questionnaire 1) Prof. Tobias Krüger, IRI THESys
	Departure