

## IfL Research Workshop #9

### **Exploring affects and emotions in current spatially related research: established methods and new approaches**

20 March 2024 - 21 March 2024

**Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography  
Leipzig**

Geographies of affect and emotion have developed into a constant feature of geographical research. While the role of affects and emotions in human geography phenomena is undoubted, questions of the very 'how' of researching emotions nevertheless do persist. With quickly altering conditions and discourses, spheres and tools, the role and entanglements of affects and emotions in our lives has ever been changing, causing a permanent re-evaluation of their conceptualization as well as methods of exploration. Simultaneously, geographical methodological thinking and respective research practice is expanding in creative ways, increasingly integrating visibility, sensory notions and bodily aspects.

This IfL research workshop will therefore provide a forum for exchange on current state-of-the-art techniques and new trends in empirically researching affects and emotions in spatially related topics. With the research workshop, we want to offer an opportunity to not only present and discuss current approaches in this field, but also to explore promising methodical ways and techniques together.

## Agenda Wednesday, 20 March 2024

09:15 // arrival and coffee

09:30 // **Intro and warm up:** *Kristine Beurskens & Tim Leibert* (IfL, Leipzig)

10:00 // **Storytelling: Experiences and strategies in the field**

Speakers: *Mariam Gambashidze, Lela Rekhviashvili* (IfL, Leipzig)

10:15 // short break

10:30 // **Lightning Session 1: Talking about affects and emotions in spatial research**

*Contributions:*

1. 'Affective Arrangements' in local conflict research – What challenges for qualitative methods? - *Maria Budnik, Christoph Hedtke & Aleander Kraemer* (University of Applied Science, Erfurt)
2. Sticking and Sliding - Mapping Emotions in Discourse - *Lilly Lautermann* (University of Münster)
3. 'Narratives' as a concept for analysing the affective production of space and identity - *Friedrich Trautmann* (University of Freiburg)
4. Svalbard's cultural landscapes: The ghost and the soviet heritage - *Nadir Kinossian* (IfL, Leipzig)
5. Sensing Urban Manufacturing: From Conspicuous to Sensible Production - *Ottavia Cima* (University of Bern) & *Ewa Wasilewska* (Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design)
6. Blackbox Saxony: 'Studying up' the Saxon Deportation Regime - *Lucia Mrázová* (IfL, Leipzig)
7. Methodological implementation of intimate approaches in feminist political ecology - critical exploration of field research experiences in Ethiopia - *Annapia Debarry* (University of Bonn)

12:00 // lunch break

13:00 // **Lightning Session 2: Affects and emotions between (in) visibility and interaction**

*Contributions:*

1. Visualizing place/space related affects: Mental Maps, Photovoice, and their integration in (walking) interview situations - *Franziska Imhoff* (Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)
2. Exploring Mental Mapping as a Method to capture Emotions of Displacement and Flight of Ukrainian Refugees - *Sabine von Löwis* (ZOiS, Berlin)
3. Capturing spatial atmospheres and exploring their effects on people's affective moods using reflexive videography - *Marvin Schlamelcher* (University of Hildesheim)
4. Image-based Interviews to explore ontological (in) security in the field of housing - *Sophie Mélix* (Technische Universität Berlin) & *Carolin Genz* (vhw Research, Berlin)
5. Is there something in the air? Promoting food forestry through generative encounters in Noord-Brabant, the Netherlands - *Anna Minke Roodhof* (Wageningen University & Research)
6. Emotional(ized) Sustainability: The Affective Dimension of Transformative Learning within Geography Education - *Daniela Lippe* (University of Graz)

14:15 // coffee break

14:45 // **Intro to World Café tables**

15:00 // **World Café**

Hosted by: *Nona Renner, Lela Rekhviashvili, Wladimir Sgibnev and Lucia Mrázová* (IfL)

Themes of the tables will emerge during the discussions

17:00 // **Conclusion**

17:30 // **End**

19:00 // **Informal get-together 19:00** (city centre of Leipzig)

---

## **Agenda Thursday, 21 March 2024**

09:15 // **arrival and coffee**

09:30 // **Open Space: Storytelling and other contributions**

09:50 // **short break**

10:00 // **ExperiSpace:** You have the opportunity to participate in one of them

**1. Collective creation of a digital Emotional Map**

*Cornelia Steinhäuser* (University of Münster), *Henriette Aichinger* (Artist from Leipzig) & *Grashina Gabelmann* (Founding Member of Flaneur Magazin)

**2. Taking a shot at affective methodologies in the context of securitization and spatial structures of violence**

*Barbara Meier, Dominique Kauer & Katharina Ciax* (University of Jena)

**Lunch will be served in a break, arranged with the ExperiSpace coordinators.**

13:45 // **Exchange on the ExperiSpaces and final discussion**

14:15 // **End and Good-Bye**

## Information about the program

### Lightning Session 1, 20 March 2024, 10:30 am: Talking about effect and emotions in spatial research

**1. 'Affective Arrangements' in local conflict research – What challenges for qualitative methods?** - *Maria Budnik, Christoph Hedtke & Alexander Kraemer* (University of Applied Science, Erfurt)

Abstract – With the "rediscovery of feelings" (Senge et al. 2022; Kahl 2019), affects and emotions have become an integral part of the social sciences. Today, it is primarily their elicitation and the question of which methods are actually suitable for this purpose that are being discussed and perceived as a central challenges (ibid., further Flam/Kleres 2015). Our article follows on from this by analysing the extent to which some methods can actually help to empirically assess affects and emotions.

Building on the concept of "affective arrangements" by Slaby et al. (2019), we focus on qualitative methods, as they seem particularly suitable for researching "affect-intensive places of social life" (ibid.). To illustrate this, we draw on a current dynamic and complex conflict constellation (Großmann et al. 2024 i.E.) from our own ongoing research, which is composed of different actors, discourses, materialities, but also artifacts and spaces. Various methodological steps are used to determine their affective composition, such as: observation, narrative interviews, discourse analysis, but also audiovisual analyses and self-reflection.

Our contribution aims above all to explore the potential of such an approach for research into local conflicts and their dynamics. In addition to an exemplary insight into some of those methods and their ability to make affectivity visible, the article also addresses the more general question of whether (and how) conflicts can better be understood by means of the concept of "affective arrangements". Finally, we would like to discuss this and the benefits of a multi-method perspective on affective phenomena.

#### References:

- Großmann, K.; Budnik, M.; Hedtke, C.; Kraemer, A. (2024): Konflikte als dynamische und komplexe Konstellationen verstehen, in: Kerstin, N.; Hunger, U.; Müller, J.-D. (Ed.): Konflikte, Wiesbaden (forthcoming)
- Flam, H.; Kleres, J. (Ed.) (2015): Methods of exploring emotions. London, New York
- Kahl, A. (Ed.) (2019): Analyzing Affective Societies: Methods and Methodologies, New York
- Senge et al. (Ed.) (2022): Schlüsselwerke der Emotionssoziologie, 2. Aufl., Wiesbaden
- Slaby, J., Mühlhoff, R., Wünschner, P. (2019): Affective Arrangements, in: *Emotion Review*, Vol 11/1, 3-12

**2. Sticking and Sliding – Mapping Emotions in Discourses** - *Lilly Lautermann* (University of Münster)

Abstract – Facing the current polarization and intensification of (geo-)political debates induced by the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 I am investigating the relationship between discourse and emotions in geopolitical debates in the German Bundestag and in mainstream print media. My research is part of the DFG project "Zeitenwende?! Umbrüche, Emotionalisierungen und (Re-)Polarisierungen geopolitischer Identitäts- und Risikodiskurse in Deutschland im Angesicht des russischen Eroberungskrieges in der Ukraine" (University of Muenster, Research Group Political Geography).

While it has been widely acknowledged, that emotions matter politically, there are in fact hardly any research approaches that investigate how emotions are inscribed in geopolitical debates and

what significance they have in the sharpening of geopolitical identities in times of crisis, when hegemonic geopolitical imaginations not only change gradually but by means of a rupture ('Zeitenwende'). Under these conditions an exciting window of opportunity opens to examine the dynamics of discursive-affective meaning-making. However, this requires a more precise elaboration of a conceptual foundation on which the following empirical analysis can be based. To theorize the relationship between knowledge, power, embodiment and the circumstances of war for the emotionalization of political debates I extend Sara Ahmeds concept of 'Stickiness' by considerations from Lacanian psychoanalysis and its adaptation in international relation studies and political geography as well as some core findings from the neurosciences concerning the relation of emotion and cognition. In my input, I present a brief overview of this conceptual framing and discuss possible methodological consequences for the analysis of the data corpus and the upcoming interviews with politicians.

### **3. 'Narratives' as a concept for analysing the affective production of space and identity - Friedrich Trautmann (University of Freiburg)**

Abstract – Geographical researchers often use ethnographic research methods to analyze the affective production of space and identity. However, discourse research is also developing approaches to investigate the intertwining of emotion and language on the basis of formal and content-related characteristics of utterances. Based on ongoing empirical research on the construction of East German identity by the far right, we suggest using the concept of 'narratives' to investigate the affective production of space and identity in discourses. Narratives can be understood as a specific discursive form that, by addressing memories of past emotional worlds and emotionally determining subject positions and courses of action, give feelings a form and a course that influences the affective experience of the political present. Through the analysis of narrative patterns and structures, we are thus able to analyse how affects are organized, directed and moderated within temporal-spatial contexts of meaning and how identities and agency are constructed as a result.

### **4. Svalbard's cultural landscapes: The ghost and the soviet heritage - Nadir Kinossian (IfL, Leipzig)**

Abstract – Cultural landscapes represent social structures, interests, and values. At the same time, the observer can derive, interpret, reinterpret, and inscribe new meanings to them. Landscapes that are saturated with symbols dictate to the viewer what can and cannot be seen and derived from them. On the other hand, landscapes that are abandoned, ruined, partly erased, and deprived of actors, activities, and political context present a different sort of setting. What can be derived from them? What or whom do they represent? Can the current conceptualisations help to capture their meanings? This paper attempts to expand the debate on cultural landscapes, by exploring the linkages to the concepts of haunting and ghosts. It is argued that ruined and abandoned landscapes are 'haunted', and that the viewer can engage with a haunted landscape via 'ghosts' – fictitious agents that help to: i) associate with the ghost, and ii) remind the viewer of the bygone actors, forces, and contexts that shaped the landscape.

## **5. Blackbox Saxony: 'Studying up' the Saxon Deportation Regime - Lucia Mrázová (IfL, Leipzig)**

'Blackbox Saxony' refers to a rather opaque environment with contested policies, practices and perspectives, which are diligently kept away from the public gaze. A number of cases which have gained public attention unveil a particularly brutal intervention into the life of an individual or a family. By looking at the structures, practices and reasoning of deportations in Saxony, this thesis aims to gain a deeper understanding of the logics and strategies of the so-called Saxon Deportation Regime. Insights from securitisation theory and decolonial thought help to unravel practices of 'othering' and criminalisation of migrants, which are seen as 'colonial continuities' maintaining matrices of (unequal)power relations between the Global North and South/East. The analysis takes a microlevel approach by looking at ideas, institutions and interests behind the regime itself. This is done through semi-structured interviews with representatives of authorities and actors representing migrants. It reveals a complex network of actors, with different and often conflicting roles, responsibilities and mandates, unveiling practices of power, (ir-)responsibility and detachment from those made 'deportable'.

## **6. Sensing Urban Manufacturing: From Conspicuous to Sensible Production - Ottavia Cima (University of Bern) & Ewa Wasilewska (Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design)**

Abstract - Environmental destruction, social inequalities, geopolitical vulnerability—the limits of the long-time praised paradigm of post-industrial cities and globalised value chains are becoming evident, while calls for (re)localising production in cities are getting increasingly vocal. However, the material implications—i.e. where and in which form urban manufacturing should concretely take place and the consequences on urban space and relations—are rarely addressed in debates on (re)industrialisation. In this presentation, we share our experience with applying sensory methods to explore how production shapes urban sensescapes and how these sensescapes affect our relation to production. The paper is based on a laboratory course with graduate students, during which we investigated the multisensory dimension of urban manufacturing to interrogate the spatial possibilities for production in a small town in Switzerland.

## **7. Methodological implementation of intimate approaches in feminist political ecology - critical exploration of field research experiences in Ethiopia - Annapia Debarry (University of Bonn)**

Abstract – In this lightning session, I would like to critically engage with my own experiences as a white and foreign doctoral student in Ethiopia, exploring embodied and emotional experiences of marginalized populations with agrarian change. My ongoing dissertation includes two case studies: (1) a large-scale irrigation project in a rural setting of Northern Ethiopia; (2) innercity urban agricultural practices along a river in Addis Ababa. The dissertation aims to contribute to the "intimate" (Elmhirst, 2015, p. 524) approaches in feminist political ecology that have emerged in the wake of the emotional turn. I am working ethnographically, primarily with photo-documentation, interviews and in close collaboration with a local research partner to verify my findings, observations and notes. Methodologically, it has been a challenge to integrate an 'intimate' perspective into this research. Although I draw on existing resources from scholars of emotional feminist political ecology (especially Sultana, Doshi, Truelove), my own positionality, language barriers and translations, as well as cultural differences affected this research and made it particularly challenging. In this talk, I would like to explore the (im)possibilities of 'emotional'

research, particularly in relation to key tools of reflexive research, such as positionality and reflexivity, as well as raise concerns about emerging power relations during research in 'insider-outsider' contexts.

#### References:

- Doshi, S., 2017. Embodied urban political ecology: five propositions. *Area* 49, 125–128. <https://doi.org/10.1111/area.12293>
- Elmhirst, R., 2015. Feminist political ecology, in: Perreault, T., Bridge, G., McCarthy, J. (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Political Ecology*, Routledge Handbooks. Routledge, London, New York, pp. 519–530.
- Sultana, F., 2007. Water, Water Everywhere, But Not a Drop to Drink: Pani Politics (Water Politics) in Rural Bangladesh. *Int. Fem. J. Polit.* 9, 494–502. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616740701607994>
- Truelove, Y., 2011. (Re-)Conceptualizing water inequality in Delhi, India through a feminist political ecology framework. *Geoforum* 42, 143–152. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2011.01.004>
- Truelove, Y., Ruszczuk, H.A., 2022. Bodies as urban infrastructure: Gender, intimate infrastructures and slow infrastructural violence. *Polit. Geogr.* 92, 102492. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2021.102492>

## Lightning Session 2, 20 March 2024, 1 pm: Affects and emotions between (in)visibility and interaction

### 1. Visualizing place/space related affects: Mental Maps, Photovoice, and their integration in (walking) interview situations - *Franziska Imhoff* (Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)

Abstract – To explore spatial experiences beyond discursive methods, human geography increasingly relies on visual methods. There is a growing array of visual methods in contemporary spatially related research, ranging from reflective video- or photography to the analysis of social media posts and the integration of drawings into data collection processes. Such visualizations, along with their creation processes, inform empirical research by telling stories related to the experiencing, practicing, and feeling of place/space. Visual methods sensitize researchers to insights that might be overlooked in researcher-led questions. This is why visual methods are occasionally treated as participatory methods, albeit with some controversy. Without doubt, visualizations exceed the explanatory boundaries of the discursive. This is particularly vital to the exploration of affective qualities of place/space. One way to integrate visual methods into the research design is by employing mental maps. Mental maps are typically hand-drawn graphics that depict individual perceptions of everyday spaces, such as neighbourhoods or daily routes. Emphasizing the affective and emotional experience of spatial contexts, mental maps serve as visual gateways to the practices of spatial experience and appropriation. In previous research, I complemented walking interviews with mental maps to illuminate the "sense of place" and notions of place attachment among back-to-the-land migrants in rural Lusatia.

However, the practical implementation of mental maps in the context of walking interviews may present challenges. An alternative, more intuitive approach to incorporating a visual method into the research process involves participants taking photographs during walking interviews. The Photovoice Method empowers research participants to share their perspectives through the captured images. Unlike mere clarification of image content, photo elicitation taps into a broader realm of human consciousness compared to verbal interaction, particularly enabling the expression of affective and emotional nuances. Often, these nuances become evident in the process of deciding what site or object to capture during the photograph-taking phase.

This being said, numerous questions emerge that spark the debate on visual methods and affect: Is it the image itself that we focus on, or is it the process of its capture and the accompanying narrative that reveals the affective resonance of the materialities/more-than-human

elements/situations depicted in the photos? How do we gain insights into the affect and emotion directed at or emerging from these visualizations? Provocatively asked, can all visual material be considered just another form of representation and therefore miss the intent of delving into the more-than-representational, the bodily, the affective?

## **2. Exploring Mental Mapping as a Method to capture Emotions of Displacement and Flight of Ukrainian Refugees - Sabine von Löwis (ZOiS, Berlin)**

Abstract – The Lightning Paper will address how we use in a long term study mental mapping as part of qualitative in-depth interviews to explore the experiences and emotions of Ukrainian refugees who fled Ukraine since the beginning of the war in 2022. The mental mapping as method made a lot of different emotions visible that link to place and overcoming space. I will reflect on the method, the application and the outcome.

## **3. Capturing spatial atmospheres and exploring their effects on people's affective moods using reflexive videography - Marvin Schlamelcher (University of Hildesheim)**

Abstract - If students recognise the effects of spatial atmospheres on their emotions and actions, they may be better equipped to take responsible and sustainable action, which is the central aim of geography lessons (DGfG, 2020). However, there is currently no research on how this can be achieved. My interdisciplinary dissertation project aims to address this desideratum using the design-based research approach (Feulner et al., 2021) and develop a model teaching sequence in which students use the concept of atmosphere (e.g., Böhme, 1998; Hasse, 2012) to critically and reflectively examine their environment and its effects on their affective mood. The thesis underlying my work is that an adaptation of the reflexive photography research method (e.g., Dirksmeier, 2007, 2013; Eberth et al., 2017) to reflexive videography as a teaching method can offer students a more appropriate opportunity to track down and 'capture' concrete ecological and socially sustainable and unsustainable atmospheres in their everyday lives. This is because the purely static visual level of reflexive photography can be expanded dynamically and with auditory elements in the sense of reflexive videography. In this way, the sustainable and nonsustainable atmospheres identified by the students can be better understood and made more tangible by their classmates. I would like to discuss with the other emotion researchers in a lightning session what limitations the adaptation of the method entails, how these can be overcome and what alternatives there are for capturing spatial atmospheres.

### **References:**

- Böhme, G. (1998). *Anmutungen. Über das Atmosphärische. Ostfildern vor Stuttgart: edition tertium.*
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geographie e.V. [DGfG] (2020). *Bildungsstandards im Fach Geographie für den Mittleren Schulabschluss mit Aufgabenbeispielen (10th, updated and revised edition).* Bonn: Author.
- Dirksmeier, P. (2007). Der husserlsche Bildbegriff als theoretische Grundlage der reflexiven Fotografie: Ein Beitrag zur visuellen Methodologie in der Humangeografie. *Social Geography* 2(1), 1-10.
- Dirksmeier, P. (2013). Zur Methodologie und Performativität qualitativer visueller Methoden – Die Beispiele der Autofotografie und reflexiven Fotografie. In E. Rothfuß & T. Dörfler (Hrsg.), *Raumbezogene qualitative Sozialforschung* (S. 83-101). Wiesbaden: Springer VS.
- Eberth, A., Häusler, M., Meyer, C., Reblin, S. & von Roux, Y. (2017). *Diercke Erdkunde. Einführungsphase Niedersachsen G9.* Braunschweig: Westermann.
- Feulner, B., Hiller, J. & Serwene, P. (2021). Design-Based Research in der Geographiedidaktik – Kernelemente, Verlaufmodell und forschungsmethodologische Besonderheiten anhand vier ausgewählter Forschungsprojekte. *EDeR – Educational Design Research* 5(2), 1-32.
- Hasse, J. (2012). *Atmosphären der Stadt. Aufgespürte Räume.* Berlin: Jovis.



#### **4. Image-based Interviews to explore ontological (in) security in the field of housing - Sophie Mélix (Technische Universität Berlin) & Carolin Genz (vhw Research, Berlin)**

Abstract - The research project on "Housing (In)Security" accounts for the emotional dimension of housing experiences through the use of the photo-elicitation method (Dobrusskin et al. 2021; Harper 2002). By using the "surplus of meaning" of images in qualitative interviews, we aim to understand the subjective perceptions of security and insecurity among residents in the German housing market. This methodological approach allows us to gain empirical insight into the emotional and affective aspects of housing experiences and needs. In the evaluation, we intend to combine qualitative and quantitative data in order to ultimately formulate practical approaches for municipal and housing policy.

##### **References:**

- Dobrusskin, Janina; Helbrecht, Ilse; Born, Anthony Miro; Genz, Carolin (2021): Bildgestützte Interviews am Beispiel der Foto-Elizitation. In Anna Juliane Heinrich, Séverine Marguin, Angela Million (Eds.): Handbuch qualitative und visuelle Methoden der Raumforschung. Bielefeld: transcript Verlag (UTB, 5582), pp. 209–221.
- Harper, Douglas (2002): Talking about pictures. A case for photo elicitation. In *Visual Studies* 17 (1), pp. 13–26. DOI: 10.1080/14725860220137345.

#### **5. Is there something in the air? Promoting food forestry through generative encounters in Noord-Brabant, the Netherlands - Anna Minke Roodhof (Wageningen University & Research)**

Abstract - Food forestry (FF), a type of agriculture that mimics a forest ecosystem, has become increasingly prevalent in the Netherlands (Green Deal *Voedselbossen*, 2017). Current research flags entrepreneurial skills (Wiek & Albrecht, 2021) and analysis of both the social and ecological context (Björklund, Eksvärd & Schaffer, 2019) as pivotal to the success of FF initiatives. As FF is an emerging phenomenon, land-use policies, laws, and regulations often misrecognize it and hamper its realization as a consequence. FF practitioners stress the importance of generating political goodwill and the acquisition of allies within various governing bodies to overcome this issue (Roodhof, forthcoming). Specifically, in the Dutch province of Noord-Brabant, unlike in many other provinces, new policies have been implemented to accommodate the growing number of food forests. Drawing on the work of Ben Anderson (2014), this study aims to investigate how encounters between FF practitioners, civil society organizations, and civil servants from various municipalities, water boards, and the provincial government of Noord-Brabant have resulted in a more conducive infrastructural environment for food forests. Through extensive participant observation and semi-structured interviews with practitioners, civil society organization representatives, and civil servants, these encounters will be analyzed for changes in civil servants' bodily capacity to affect and be affected.

##### **References:**

- Anderson, B. (2014). *Encountering affect: Capacities, apparatuses, conditions*. Routledge.
- Björklund, J., Eksvärd, K., and Schaffer, C. (2019). Exploring the potential of edible forest gardens: Experiences from a participatory action research project in Sweden. *Agroforestry Systems*, 93, 1107-1118. doi: 10.1007/s10457-018-0208-8
- Green Deal Voedselbossen. (2017). *Over de Green Deal*. <https://www.greendealvoedselbossen.nl/over-de-green-deal/>
- Roodhof, A. (forthcoming). Understanding the emerging phenomenon of food forestry in the Netherlands: An assemblage theory approach. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*.
- Wiek, A., and Albrecht, S. (2021). Almost there: On the importance of a comprehensive entrepreneurial ecosystem for developing sustainable urban food forest enterprises. *Urban Agriculture & Regional Food Systems*, 7. doi: 10.1002/uar.2.20025

## 6. Emotional(ized) Sustainability: The Affective Dimension of Transformative Learning within Geography Education - Daniela Lippe (University of Graz)

Abstract - With some exceptions, emotions had been largely excluded from historical perspectives in educational research (Pekrun & Linnenbrink-Garcia, 2014). Inspired by the so-called affective turn in the 1970s which resulted in a heightened interest in emotions in various scientific disciplines there has been an increased interest in emotions in educational research ever since the 1990s (Pekrun & Linnenbrink-Garcia, 2014). Likewise, the connections between emotions and sustainability related issues, such as climate change, have been repeatedly addressed in environmental research since the 1990s (Carmi et al., 2015). However, both disciplines have a strong emphasis on a psychological understanding of emotions and while approaches such as environmental psychology provide valuable insights (Hamilton, 2020) an individualistic idea of change and engagement often takes center stage.

Along with Clayton et al. (Clayton et al., 2015), I argue that we need to broaden our notion of individual psychological responses to account for the dynamic relationships with wider society. This also relates to the realm of sustainability education. Rather than focusing on the lack of 'correct' behavior and regarding emotions as the 'key' to behavioral change (Schultz, 2002), I seek to explore approaches to emotions that allow for a more complex understanding, which is not only restricted to the individual and its behavior but to the way in which emotions are part of our cultural politics and world making (Ahmed, 2014). Interactionist theories seem to offer new perspectives and allow us to shift the focus to "what emotions" (ibid.), and hence, to contribute to a less instrumental and more emancipatory approach to sustainability education.

My main research questions are: How are emotions and sustainability connected in the context of transformative learning? What emotions do young people experience regarding (un-)sustainable food systems? How can we deal with emotions in a way that is beneficial to (transformative) learning processes within a participatory research project? I seek to answer these questions a part of my work within the participatory research project EAT+CHANGE and will present some first ideas for my approach.

### References:

- Ahmed, S. (2014). *The cultural politics of emotion* (Second edition). Edinburgh University Press.
- Carmi, N., Arnon, S., & Orion, N. (2015). Transforming Environmental Knowledge Into Behavior: The Mediating Role of Environmental Emotions. *The Journal of Environmental Education*, 46(3), 183–201. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00958964.2015.1028517>
- Clayton, S., Devine-Wright, P., Stern, P. C., Whitmarsh, L., Carrico, A., Steg, L., Swim, J., & Bonnes, M. (2015). Psychological research and global climate change. *Nature climate change*, 5(7), 640–646.
- Hamilton, J. (2020). *Emotional Methodologies for Climate Change Engagement: Towards an understanding of emotion in Civil Society Organisation (CSO)-public engagements in the UK* [Phd, University of Reading]. <https://doi.org/10.48683/1926.00095647>
- Pekrun, R., & Linnenbrink-Garcia, L. (2014). *International Handbook of Emotions in Education*. Taylor & Francis. [https://books.google.at/books?id=8\\_UjAwAAQBAJ](https://books.google.at/books?id=8_UjAwAAQBAJ)
- Schultz, P. W. (2002). Inclusion with Nature: The Psychology Of Human-Nature Relations. In P. Schmuck & W. P. Schultz (Hrsg.), *Psychology of Sustainable Development* (S. 61–78). Springer US. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4615-0995-0\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4615-0995-0_4)

## World Café, 20 March 2024, 3 pm

Hosted by: *Nona Renner, Lela Rekhviashvili, Wladimir Sgibnev and Lucia Mrázová* (IfL)

The world café offers the opportunity to discuss different aspects of this research workshop in a more relaxed atmosphere over the course of several rounds of talks. The participants gather in small groups at a table with a blank tablecloth that can be written on. In the run-up to the event, we have chosen some focal points in relation to the contributions discussed in the lightning sessions. Participants are invited to indicate and contribute their own areas of interest. There will be the opportunity to participate in discussions at the tables in four rounds of about 20 minutes each and to record ideas, impressions and results on the tablecloth. Each participant therefore has the opportunity to visit all the tables. During the rounds, there will be coffee and tea available, and the end of the fourth round marks the transition to the end of the first research workshop day.

---

## ExperiSpace, 21 March 2024, 10 am: You have the opportunity to participate in one of them

**1. Collective creation of a digital Emotional Map** - *Cornelia Steinhäuser* (University of Münster), *Henriette Aichinger* (Artist from Leipzig) & *Grashina Gabelmann* (Founding Member of Flaneur Magazin)

Social-ecological transformation research recognizes the relevance of emotions for a change in behavior and relationships. The interaction between humans and places involves cognitive, behavioral, and emotional relationships. For this workshop we ask ourselves: to what extent can these relationships be made tangible via a digital map? Could this method also be used to help with spatial planning? How can art and science enrich each other and collaborate as opposed to appropriating methods from one another?

### Aim

To collectively create a digital 'Emotional Map' that makes tangible the variety of perceptions one can have of a place. This will be done by combining scientific observations and artistic sensibility. We are always embedded in our surroundings, we are part of our environment with our body, senses and mind. What we perceive and how depends on our personal history. A person trained in botany i.e. might make sense of a place only by getting to know which plants grow.

**Procedure** (Number of participants: 12; each participant should bring a laptop or tablet)

30 minutes in a seminar room

- Presentation of Story Map JC Software (open access, very easy to use) and the method
- Introduction of the approach by artist Grashina Gabelmann and landscape-ecological-ethnographic researcher Cornelia Steinhäuser

45 - 60 minutes in the surroundings

- The artists Grashina Gabelmann and Henriette Aichinger (tbc) and landscape ecologist Cornelia Steinhäuser will guide the group around the institute's environment combining performative, artistic and scientific impressions. This will serve as a means to collect material for the 'Emotional Map'.

15 minutes

- Coffee Break

30 minutes in the seminar room

- Creation of the 'Emotional Map'

30 minutes

- Discussion of experiences and results

## 2. Taking a shot at affective methodologies in the context of securitization and spatial structures of violence - Barbara Meier, Dominique Kauer & Katharina Ciax (University of Jena)

*Ordinary affect is a surging, a rubbing, a connection of some kind that has an impact. It's (...) about bodies literally affecting one another and generating intensities: human bodies, discursive bodies, bodies of thought, bodies water.*  
(Stewart 2007: 128)

Understanding affective methodologies as a feminist research practice, we (Dominique, Katharina, and Barbara) apply them in varying contexts in our Ph.D. research. With the background of our practical experience, we want to offer a platform for an intense discussion of methodologies based on an experimental phase within the workshop. According to Elisabeth Miltz (2019: 143) we capture affective methodology as enabling the "capturing and presencing moments of affective encounter through ethnographic field research [...]". Focusing thematically on securitization, the framing of specific social spaces or practices as security threats, that justify exceptional measures and policies, the participants are invited to work in small teams with up to three methods: (1) a textual method (journals/vignettes) and two visual methods (2) affective mapping (3) photo voice.

We want to approach affective methods practically and discuss how and whether the intangible can be made tangible (at all). In doing so, we want to raise questions and reflect on the research process's difficulties. It is, therefore, less of a static input but rather a research workshop based on individual and joint research experiences that we gather during the workshop and contribute to our practice. We are interested in an exchange on accessibility, critical points, challenges, and problems. Feel free to bring materials for your individual research if you would like to discuss them with the group in the second part of the workshop.

### Workshop Schedule (3 hours):

1. Get Together (10/15 min.)
  - 1.1. Who are we?
  - 1.2. What are our experiences with affective-emotional Methods?
  - 1.3. What are we researching?
2. Input (20-30 min.)
  - 2.1. short theoretical input
  - 2.2. affect / emotion / atmosphere
  - 2.3. *researching in a team*
3. Taking a shot at affective methods: practical phase in groups (1,5 hours) (groups with ca 3 persons, ideally with min. one person knowing the way around the IfL)
  - 3.1. intro
  - 3.2. visual method: à la photo voice
  - 3.3. Autoethnographic text-based method: journaling/"vignetting"/mapping
4. coffee break (20 min.)
5. presentation and discussion of material developed in the practical phase & evaluation of methodologies (25 min.)

### References:

- Miltz, Elisabeth (2019): *Affective Nationalism. Bodies, Materials and Encounters with the Nation of Azerbaijan*. Wien/Zürich: LIT-Verlag.
- Stewart, Kathleen (2007): *Ordinary Affects*. Durham London: Duke University Press.

## Contact us

Kristine Beurskens, Tim Leibert, Jérôme Knapp:  
[forschungswerkstatt@leibniz-ifl.de](mailto:forschungswerkstatt@leibniz-ifl.de)

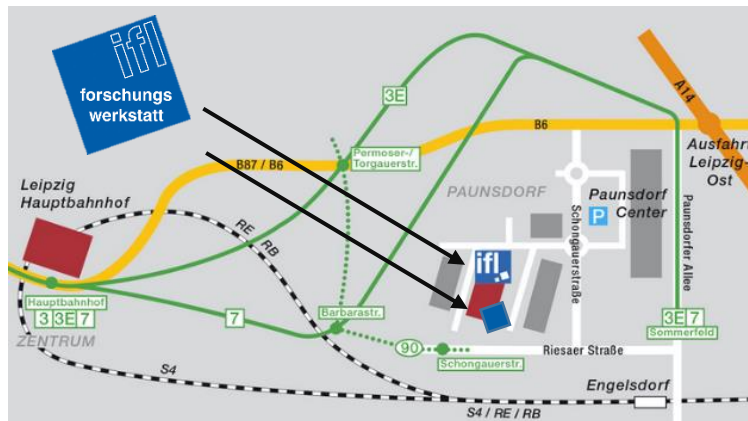
## Locations:

### Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde:

Schongauerstraße 9  
 04328 Leipzig, Germany  
 Tel.: +49 341 600 55-0, Fax: -198

### Staatsbetrieb Sächsisches Immobilien- und Baumanagement (SIB)

Schongauerstraße 7  
 04328 Leipzig, Germany



Stops: Main station: RB110, RE50, Wilhelm-Leuschner-Platz: 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14; S-Bahn 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 5X oder 6) or Neues Rathaus (Tram line 2, 8, 9 oder 14)