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research groups

Circulation and Place-Making

Circulation and Place-Making investigates the movement of people and cultural forms, the relation between mobility and immobility, social transformation and creativity. It particularly focuses on migration/emigration and religious transnationalism and imagination. This research group explores the role of flow and movement in contemporary world and its connections with the politics of making roots and identities.

Environment, Sustainability and Ethnography

Ethnography is a solid method for a profound approximation to peoples’ daily life and therefore for critical assessments on sustainability and environmental issues. The integrative character of these phenomena demands for comparative and cross-cultural approaches in which local specificities and sociocultural diversities work as metonyms for globalizes processes. An applied perspective is informed by two main assumptions: anthropological knowledge must be shared with non-academic audiences in order to inform environmental policies, while creating dialogues with other sciences. Therefore, interdisciplinarity is required, thus reinforcing the interconnections between ethnography, cultural and biological anthropology.

Governance, Policies and Livelihoods

Governance, Policies and Livelihoods aims to provide a critical framework for understanding policy-making in multiple institutional and non-institutional contexts. Through a focus on laws and discourses on rights and obligations, on daily economic and cultural practices and on the role of identity politics this research group fosters in-depth investigations into the connections between policies and livelihoods. Research examines how different social groups apply local knowledge in their responses to policy impacts, elucidating the unexamined presumptions of policy making, calling into questions concepts of citizenship, among others and providing insights for policy development.

Practices and Politics of Culture

The research group focuses on the uses and practices of culture, the connections between culture, heritage and tourism regarding local and regional impact, the role of museums and festivals in the process of objectification of culture, the construction of sites as tourism destinations and the circulation and rescaling of cultural forms. Based on detailed ethnographic case studies, on communities’ experience and on critical approaches, the research group explores five topics; ethnology of heritage; portable heritage and communities in transit; collections, collecting practices and ethical values; performance, media and creative industries.

thematic lines

Anthropology of Health
Anthropology of Religion
AZIMUT – Studies in Arab and Islamic Contexts
Informal Resources, State and Social Capital
NAVA – Visual Anthropology and Arts Laboratory

laboratories

Laboratory Jill Rosemary Dias
Audiovisual Laboratory
Laboratory of Environmental Anthropology and Behavioural Ecology
Laboratory of Biological Anthropology and Osteological Human Remains

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