

A project Collaboration with
mLAB and Theater of Transformation Academy (TOFTA)
Hosted by the Institute of Geography, University of Bern

Co-Creative & Transformative Methodologies Through Performance Ethnographies

1st of August 2020 - 31st of March 2021
(8 months)

Academic discourses in social sciences are rooted within pervasive debates and in scientifically biased narrations targeting a limited yet privileged audience. The conventional form of scientific dissemination is through high ranking journals, conference presentations at formal educational settings that often times exclude their very own research participants as co-authors and are not reachable to non-academic publics. Such exclusionary and competitive scientific tradition is being contested and challenged ever more by a rising cohort of interdisciplinary and transformative scholarly engagements. Becoming part of creating and enacting new research methods and methodologies with and through media tools, the mLAB joins forces with the [Theater of Transformation Academy](#) to collaborate on “*Co-Creative and Transformative Methodologies Through Performance Ethnographies*”.

We collaborate with a range of distinguished and emerging universities and academic institutions around the world. We design and offer transformative educational courses, seminars and creative spaces for reshaping paradigms and generating new knowledge. These include:

University of Oxford, Centre for International Studies (UK)

European University Institute (Italy)

Geneva Centre for Security Policy, GCSP (Switzerland)

St Gallen University (Switzerland)

Geneva Academy for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (Switzerland)

Heliopolis University (Egypt)

Lebanese University (Lebanon)

Vishtar Academy of Peace and Justice, Bangalore (India)

Open university, Bangalore (India)

Dar Al Kalima University College (Palestine)

Da Vinci University (South Africa)

We will work towards developing interdisciplinary unorthodox coalitions of aesthetics and research, working in the applied research and performance arts of; theater, cinema, visual anthropology, human geography and new media, the project aims; 1) to create and design transformative educational courses and seminars, 2) to reflect and identify best practices in the field, 3) to produce publications and media work on its' co-creative and transformative methodologies, and 4) to enact new knowledge mediations where wider audiences are made part of research process in different space and platform creations with various collaborating partners ; the UN Library, Humanitarian Circuits , Peace Missions, Global Science Film Festival, ETHNO KINO.

Chaired by:

Prof. Dr. Susan Thieme & Dr. Rama Mani

Coordinated by:

Dr. Eda Elif Tibet