

WORKSHOP

Exploring interdisciplinary research: concepts and methods for collaborative work

Lecturer:

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Switzerland

Friday 27th January, 2023
From 9.00 to 12.00 and from 13.15 to 15.00

Interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity constitute major topics in academic and policy discourses, mainly related to the particular requirements of mission-oriented knowledge production and research funding processes. Reports and policy briefs show the increasing demand from the policy sector to integrate interdisciplinary research and transdisciplinary research into calls and programs.

This workshop introduces participants to different ways of understanding collaborative research and its main characteristics in the European context. We will focus on integration of different disciplines and briefly explain the development of concepts and methods for interdisciplinary research. As part of this outline, we will highlight curated resources and tools for inter- and trans-disciplinary research. It will focus on those resources that are particularly useful for individual researchers, including resources to help researchers acquire skills to bridge disciplinary differences and share their knowledge with different research partners.

The workshop aims to help students to:

1. Develop a richer understanding of the different possibilities in interdisciplinary research,
2. Grasp the challenges of interdisciplinary integration,
3. Reflect on how students can design and conduct their own research; and
4. Engage in participatory interdisciplinary learning and exchange!

Assignment: In addition to your attendance and informed participation in class, each student will read two scientific papers as preparation for the workshop.

Activities:

- Welcome & Setting the stage
- Conceptual focus
- Solo/paired activity to apply a reflective tool
- Group activity to explore the challenges of integration in interdisciplinary research
- Live guided tour of repositories and toolboxes highlighting key resources

Brief profile

Dr Bianca Vienni Baptista is an anthropologist, holds a PhD in Cultural Studies and is a Group Leader and Lecturer at the Transdisciplinarity Lab at ETH Zurich (Switzerland). As a researcher and lecturer, Bianca works in the field of Science, Technology and Society Studies (STS), focusing in particular on the study of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary knowledge production processes. Her research focuses on the specific conditions for inter- and transdisciplinary research in different countries and on the production and social use of knowledge, including the role of universities and other institutions (<https://csts.ethz.ch>).

Recent publications:

Vienni-Baptista, B. Fletcher, I., Lyall, C. and Pohl, C. (2022) [Embracing heterogeneity: Why plural understandings strengthen interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity](#) (open access)

Vienni Baptista, B & Klein, J. T. (2022) Institutionalizing Interdisciplinarity and Transdisciplinarity. Collaboration across Cultures and Communities. Routledge <https://www.routledge.com/Institutionalizing-Interdisciplinarity-and-Transdisciplinarity-Collaboration/Baptista-Klein/p/book/9780367654344>