



## Information Sheet for Modules “Anthropological Practice”

### General

The following module types are regularly offered at ISEK – Social and Cultural Anthropology in the module group “Anthropological Practice” (“*Ethnologische Praxis*”) (as of autumn semester 2019):

- a) Excursion (*Lehrforschung*)
- b) Summer School
- c) Museum Internship (*Praxismodul Museumsethologie*)
- d) Individual Fieldwork
- e) Ethnographic Film Festival Regard Bleu
- f) Methodological extensions

For a detailed description of this module group, please refer to page 12 of our [guidelines](#).

### Prerequisites and requirements

The successful completion of our assessment year (the first two semesters of introductory courses) is a prerequisite for attending any of the modules of “Anthropological Practice”. An additional prerequisite for the module types a-d is the methodological extension called “Doing Ethnography” (3 ECTS credits). For module type e, participation in the methodological extension “Introduction to Visual Anthropology” is a prerequisite.

Depending on the type of “Anthropological Practice” you plan to do (see below), attendance of further modules may also be a prerequisite for participation, such as regional and/or language modules. The individual lecturers of the “Anthropological Practice” modules determine the specific prerequisites of their module.

Students usually are required to write a reflection or a final report following a module of type a-e. This report should be approximately 2,000 words. The lecturer determines the format of the written report.

**Master students** may participate in excursions, summer schools, museum internships and ethnographic film festivals, and they can develop their research for their own MA thesis based on participation in such a module. However, the module as such does not count as part of the master research. The modalities for master students’ participation are agreed upon on an individual basis between the student, the lecturer and the supervisor of the student’s thesis.

### Duration and offers

a) A guided **excursion** (*Lehrforschung*) usually lasts about 4 weeks and consists of a guided and an independent research part. These modules are offered regularly during the winter or the summer break. Usually, a regional module and a language course preparing students for the excursion are offered in the preceding semester. The aim of excursions is to let students gain first empirical research experiences by developing their own research ideas, carrying out research and reflecting on it, all under the supervision of the lecturer organizing the excursion.



b) A **summer school** usually lasts approximately 2-3 weeks plus follow-up and consists of a teaching and a research part. These modules are offered regularly during the winter or the summer break. Usually, a regional module and a language course preparing students for the summer school are offered in the preceding semester. In summer schools, students of social anthropology are given the opportunity, on the one hand, to get to know different academic traditions and institutional frameworks. On the other hand, they are given the opportunity to develop and carry out a joint research project in teamwork with students from universities abroad.

c) The module **Museum Internship** ("Praxismodul Museumsethnologie") regularly takes place in spring semester and runs throughout the semester. Students learn about the practical work at the Ethnographic Museum and become familiar with current debates in museology. In cooperation with the technical and scientific departments of the Ethnographic Museum, students learn about the different dimensions of museum work and gain insights into current research and exhibition projects of the staff.

d) Independently conducted **individual fieldwork** usually takes at least 4 weeks. In this module, students learn to develop, implement and evaluate their own research idea. The research is planned and supervised in cooperation with a supervisor. All lecturers who are authorised to supervise a bachelor's thesis are entitled to also supervise individual fieldwork. A list of these persons can be found on the ISEK – Social and Cultural Anthropology website under "[Bachelor's Theses](#)".

e) A module preparing and organizing the **ethnographic film festival "Regard Bleu"** at the Ethnographic Museum is offered every two years. It runs over two semesters, from spring to autumn; with the event of the film festival taking place in October. In addition to a theoretical introduction to ethnographic film and the format "film festival", the orientation and focus of the respective festival are discussed and determined. Usually, this module is taught in several thematic blocks instead of weekly sessions.

f) In **methodological extensions** (exercise groups), different ethnographic methods are discussed and practiced at an advanced level. These methods can include (but are not limited to) participant observation, interview techniques, survey, visual methods, etc. One of these methods courses, "Doing Ethnography", is a prerequisite for participation in the other practical modules (a-d). Methodological extensions are one-semester courses (3 ECTS credits).

## Announcements

**Summer schools and excursions** (*Lehrforschungen*) are announced via email to all enrolled students and published on the ISEK website at the latest before the module booking deadline.

If **language courses** and/or **regional modules** are required as prerequisites, they will be announced before the beginning of the semester in which these preparatory modules take place.

Museum internships ("Praxismodul Museumsethnologie") and the film festival "Regard Bleu" are regularly announced in the course catalogue.



### **Participant numbers and selection procedure**

Modules taught by a lecturer (not being an individual fieldwork) must have at least 3 participants. The lecturer decides the maximum number of participants. Participants for excursions (*Lehrforschungen*) and summer schools are selected on the basis of letters of motivation submitted to the lecturer by the student after the announcement of such a module. Participation is linked, among other things, to the fulfilment of requirements and prerequisites.

### **Booking**

Excursions (*Lehrforschungen*), summer schools, and independently conducted individual fieldwork are booked using the designated booking form, which admitted students receive from the lecturer.

Students can book both the “Praxismodul Museum” and the module on the film festival “Regard Bleu” online. The regular module booking deadlines of the Faculty of Arts apply to all modules of “Anthropological Practice”.

As these modules are usually two semesters long, students must be enrolled in the same degree program in both semesters to participate if the module cannot be completed within one semester for organisational reasons.

### **Funding**

Depending on the number of modules “Anthropological Practice” offered, and the number of participants per module, ISEK – Social and Cultural Anthropology may pay a share of individual travel costs. Students completing the module “individual fieldwork” should submit the form “[Application for Travel Allowance for Students](#)” to the secretariat by the 30<sup>th</sup> of September (once a year). For excursions and summer schools, the application for travel allowances is directly submitted by the lecturer in charge.

### **Insurance**

Participants are not insured by the UZH. It is up to the participants to ensure that they have the appropriate private insurance cover (accident and health insurance). And to obtain further information independently - e.g. travel advice by FDFA at <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/representations-and-travel-advice.html>

### **Contacts**

#### *ISEK-Ethnologie*

Dr. Olivia Killias, Studienleitung, ISEK-Ethnologie, University of Zurich  
Andreasstrasse 15, 8050 Zürich

Tel.: +41 635 22 38, E-Mail: [ethno-studienleitung-BA@isek.uzh.ch](mailto:ethno-studienleitung-BA@isek.uzh.ch)  
<https://www.isek.uzh.ch/en/anthropology.html>

#### *Ethnographic Museum of the University of Zurich / Völkerkundemuseum (VMZ)*

Prof. Dr. Mareile Flitsch, Director of the Ethnographic Museum of the University of Zurich  
Pelikanstrasse 40, CH-8001 Zürich

Tel.: +41 (0)44 634 90 24, E-Mail: [flitsch@vmz.uzh.ch](mailto:flitsch@vmz.uzh.ch)  
<https://www.musethno.uzh.ch/en.html>