



# IRS Spring Academy 2017

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## Investigating Space(s): Current Theoretical and Methodological Approaches: Temporality and Procedurality

### Call for Applications

Join us for the IRS Spring Academy for Doctoral Students and Junior Researchers

- ▶ 2-5 May 2017
- ▶ Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS) in Erkner
- ▶ near Berlin

In the past two decades the interdisciplinary field between spatial and social sciences has undergone an extraordinarily dynamic development with a high potential for innovation. On the one hand, many social-scientific disciplines performed a "spatial turn" and became more interested in integrating spatial concepts and terminology. On the other hand, disciplines like human geography or spatial planning, understand space less as an exclusive object of analysis and instead emphasize a "spatial perspective" as a shared ontological ground. This has opened up a broad "trading zone" within which novel conceptualizations of space and spatiality are negotiated in an inter-disciplinary field. Against this background, the Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS) together with different academic partners and supported by the Volkswagen Foundation launch a series of three successive Spring Academies entitled "Investigating Space(s): Current Theoretical and Methodological Approaches".

Each event will focus on different aspects of the emergent thriving field. The opening event, the "IRS Spring Academy 2017: Part 1 Temporality and Procedurality" will take place from May 2nd to 5th 2017 at the IRS in Erkner and at the Technical University Berlin. Part 2 on "Virtual Realities and socio-spatial practices" will follow in 2018 and Part 3 on "Topologies" in 2019.

### Part 1 in 2017: Temporality and Procedurality

Part 1 highlights the growing interdisciplinary interest in an integrated view at spatial patterns and temporal dynamics. Examples are, the spatio-temporal analysis of innovative and creative processes, the time-spatial spread of policies among cities, the time-spatial patterns of the transition of infrastructures or technological systems or the path-dependent development of technologies, social networks and institutions. Process-based, spatio-temporal analyses are both conceptually inspiring and highly demanding. For example, the very notion of process itself is all but self-explanatory. When does a process begin and how does it end? What different understandings of process are there? What is the relationship between fixed structures and fluid emergence? How are processes linked to historical events? And what are the underlying conceptualizations of time?

The empirical investigation of processes and time-spatial dynamics poses significant methodological challenges. For example, processes are not naturally defined objects of analysis that can be simply taken for granted. Rather, the research can identify them in the ongoing

### Locations

Leibniz Institute for Research  
on Society and Space (IRS)  
Flakenstraße 29-31  
15537 Erkner

Technische Universität Berlin  
Department of Sociology  
Fraunhoferstraße 33-36  
10587 Berlin

### Organizers

Prof. Dr. Heiderose Kilper  
Prof. Dr. Oliver Ibert

### Contact

If you are interested or have  
any inquiries please contact  
**Dr. Albrecht Blümel** or  
**Christian Gerber**

- ▶ phone: +49 3362 793-160
- ▶ [springacademy@leibniz-irs.de](mailto:springacademy@leibniz-irs.de)
- ▶ [leibniz-irs.de/springacademy2017](http://leibniz-irs.de/springacademy2017)

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flow of events only by way of social construction, the so called "bracketing". Similarly, the recording of longitudinal data for process analysis is connected to a number of specific challenges. The amount of data grows rapidly; ex-post reconstruction is distorted by memory lapses as well as by the re-interpretation of events; participant observation easily can turn into a time-consuming effort.

The goal of the IRS Spring Academy is to enable junior researchers from the social sciences of all stripes to identify relevant research gaps in these highly dynamic fields, to encourage them to use a spatial perspective in their analyses and to learn from world leading experts in the field about innovative methods for empirical work. Participants will have the opportunity to present their projects in paper pitch formats and to access world leading experts for one-on-one consultancies. We therefore cordially invite doctoral and early postdoctoral researchers in the social sciences, geography and history to join us for an interesting program to discuss their own research with internationally leading scholars and their peers.

## Program

The IRS Spring Academy combines well-tried and proven formats such as lectures and seminars with less common formats such as doing-research workshops, paper pitches, or academic speed dating. It offers various possibilities to exchange ideas, to discuss current concepts and methodological approaches, as well as to getting feedback on one's own research projects from leading scholars in the field. A preliminary outline of the program can be found below.

## Participation and Costs

In order to foster in-depth discussions and reflection as well as extensive opportunities for establishing and consolidating networks, both among each other and with leading international scholars, a maximum of 25 participants will be admitted to the summer school.

Thanks to funding by the Volkswagen Foundation we can provide cost-free accommodation for all accepted participants. In addition travel expenses to Erkner and back home will be reimbursed with up to 400 € to each participant. However, there is a registration fee of 110 € for each participant, which needs to be paid as soon as you receive a confirmation of participation. Meals and snacks during the event are included.

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## Confirmed Guest Speakers (Part 1)

### ► Prof. Dr. Nina Baur | Technische Universität Berlin

Nina Baur holds a PhD in Sociology from the Otto-Friedrich-University of Bamberg (Germany) and was Visiting Researcher at Universities in Sydney and Melbourne (Australia), as well as Yale University (USA). She researches and teaches methods of spatial analysis with an empirical focus on economic sociology and sociology of organization. She is specifically interested in qualitative as well as quantitative methodologies of time and process analysis. Nina Baur is currently Managing Editor of the Journal "Historical Social Research" (HSR) and serves in the Editorial Board of "Current Sociology Monograph".

### ► Prof. Dr. Mike Crang | Durham University

Mike Crang graduated from the University of Cambridge (UK) and gained a PhD from the University of Bristol (UK). His main research areas within human geography involve those relating to social identity, theories on space and human perception of space as well as critical theories. He has worked extensively on the relationship of social memory and identity with an empirical focus on practices of public and oral history, photography and museums. He is specifically interested in issues regarding time-space, action and temporality. His interests in this area led to a collection on spatiality and social theory ("Thinking Space", edited with Nigel Thrift).

### ► Dr. Johanna Hautala | University of Turku

Johanna Hautala has been research fellow at IRS Erkner. Her research focuses on the specific spatial conditions for the creation of knowledge within the field of arts and sciences. Her dissertation "Academic Knowledge Creation as a Spatio-Temporal Process: The Case of International Research Groups in Finland" was awarded the best dissertation in economic geography in 2011 by the Economic Geography Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers. She is currently leading a research project on "Knowledge Creation Processes" funded by the Academy of Finland.

### ► Dr. Vanessa Ogle | University of Pennsylvania

Prior to joining Penn's Department of History in 2011, Vanessa Ogle completed a doctorate in history at Harvard University (USA). In 2013/14, she was a member at the Institute for Advanced Study - School of Social Science in Princeton (USA). She received thematic training in both modern Western European and Middle Eastern history. The interactions between Europe and the Middle East are one of her main areas of interest and expertise. Vanessa Ogle writes about the history of modern Europe from an international and global perspective. For her book "The Global Transformation of Time" she was awarded the International Research Award 2016 in Global History.

### ► Prof. Dr. Susanne Rau | University of Erfurt

Susanne Rau obtained her PhD in History at the Universität Hamburg (Germany) and was visiting professor (Directeur d'études associé) at Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris. Susanne Rau further is guest professor at École Normale Supérieure (France) and associated member at the "CIHAM - Histoire, Archéologie, Littératures des Mondes Chrétiens et Musulmans Médiévaux". At the University of Erfurt, Susanne Rau currently serves as Vice-President for Research and Promotion of Young Scholars. In her research she focusses on Urban History in Europe and is particularly interested in historical concepts, perceptions and especially the use of spaces.

### ► Prof. Dr. Tim Schwanen | University of Oxford

Tim Schwanen completed his PhD in Urban Geography and was lecturer at Utrecht University (NL). In his research he focuses on geographies of mobility and ageing. He is specifically interested in research methodology and conceptualisations of time in geography. Tim Schwanen is deputy director of the RCUK funded Research Centre on "Innovation and Energy Demand" (2013-2018)". In addition, Tim Schwanen is currently the editor-in-chief of "Journal of Transport Geography" and serves on the editorial advisory boards of "Environment and Planning A" as well as "Transportation and Travel Behavior and Society".

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## Application

The participants will be selected according to their academic qualification as well as the suitability of their current research project to the outline of the IRS Spring Academy 2017. Since the number of participants is limited the application process is based on a rolling deadline. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible. After we have reviewed your application, you will receive a swift notification.

### Applications must include:

- ▶ a motivational letter (max. 2 pages),
- ▶ your CV and
- ▶ a short description of your current research project  
(e.g. abstract of your dissertation incl. your PhD advisors and university)

We can only accept applications in electronic form.

Please send your application via email to ▶ [springacademy@leibniz-irs.de](mailto:springacademy@leibniz-irs.de)

## About the IRS

The Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS) is an independent social science research institute based in Erkner, near Berlin (Germany). Our mission is to conduct problem-oriented and basic research on development capacity, versatility and adaptability of space and thus the spatial dimension of social action in local, national and international relations. The researchers and PhD students at the IRS have backgrounds in disciplines such as geography, political sciences, planning sciences, sociology and history. The IRS cooperates intensively with universities in Brandenburg and Berlin, as well as with different national and international partner institutions, to advance scholarly debates and to engage in knowledge transfer with stakeholders in politics, the economy, and society.

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	TUESDAY, 2.5.2017	WEDNESDAY, 3.5.2017	THURSDAY, 4.5.2017	FRIDAY, 5.5.2017
9:00		<b>Co-Teaching Seminar</b> Time Geography, Rhythms and Societal Transitions <i>Tim Schwanen   Oliver Ibert</i>	<b>Co-Teaching Seminar</b> Process-Based Data and Ethnography <i>Michael Crang   Gabriela Christmann</i>	<b>Co-Teaching Seminar</b> Historical Approaches in Social Science-Based Spatial Theory <i>Susanne Rau   Christoph Bernhardt</i>
10:30		<b>Paper Pitch</b>	<b>Paper Pitch</b>	<b>Paper Pitch</b>
12:00		Lunch	Lunch (Brown Bag) Transfer to TU Berlin	Lunch
13:00	<b>Arrival and Registration</b>	<b>Doing-Research Workshop</b> Studying Spatio-Temporal Knowledge Creation Processes <i>Johanna Hautala</i>	<b>Doing-Research Workshop</b> (at TU Berlin) Towards a Process-Oriented Methodology <i>Nina Baur</i>	<b>Doing-Research Workshop</b> Spatial Theory and Empirical Research from a Historical Perspective <i>Susanne Rau</i>
14:30	<i>Opening Welcome at IRS</i> <i>Heiderose Kilper</i>	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
15:00	<b>Academic Speed Dating</b> <b>Meet Your Peers</b>	<b>Individual Consultations I</b>	<b>Meet the Editors</b>	<b>Individual Consultations II</b>
16:30	<b>Lecture</b> Transitions to Sustainability and the Everyday: Understanding the Spatio-Temporal Connections <i>Tim Schwanen</i>	<b>Lecture</b> Temporal Ecologies: Multiple Times and Spaces (Working Title) <i>Michael Crang</i>	<b>Lecture (at TU Berlin)</b> Global Transformation of Time (Working Title) <i>Vanessa Ogle</i>	<b>Closing Panel Discussion</b> Observations and Implications <i>Heiderose Kilper</i>
18:00	<i>Reception at IRS</i>	<i>Dinner in Erkner</i>	<i>Guided Tour at Holtzmarkt Area and Dinner in Berlin</i>	<i>Farewell</i>