

BIOrdinary Multispecies Methods Workshop

The BIOrdinary Team is organising a 'hands-on' workshop on multispecies methodologies with Andrea Petitt, multispecies ethnographer and affiliated researcher at the Centre for Gender Research at Uppsala University. No need to register participation.

- When: 10.00–12.00, Tuesday 27 May
- Where: Room B604, Department of Social Anthropology



This workshop explores *multispecies methods* as a creative, critical, and ethical response to traditional anthropocentric approaches in ethnographic research. Centred on more-than-human connections, it invites participants to engage with human and non-human encounters—from insects and horses to bodies of water and plantations—without reproducing the normative frameworks of human-centred knowledge production. Grounded in artistic, sensory, and experimental methodologies, the workshop fosters an imaginative rethinking of ethnographic practices, embracing storytelling, poetry, fiction, sound, rhythm, and tactile modes of inquiry as valid and vital tools for embodied communication and knowledge co-creation.

By exchanging experiences from our case-studies and field sites, we aim to (re)think ethnographic methods together and develop tools and techniques for learning *with* rather than merely *about* other beings and lifeworlds. We will grapple with questions such as: *How can we create knowledge about non-human beings while navigating our own biases, preconceptions, as well as sensory and cognitive limitations? What could interviews with nonhuman beings look like? And how might we push the boundaries of what counts as "data" and who counts as a knowledge producer?* Ultimately, this is an invitation to reimagine the processes of learning and knowing in ways that are ethically attuned, multisensory, and open to meaningful interspecies encounters that challenge and expand our anthropological imagination.

For preparation, we encourage you to join us for Andrea's research seminar at the department the day prior.

Research Seminar with Andrea Petitt, Monday 26 May: "An artful horseback ethnography of a Rocky Mountain ranching Multispecies Triad"

In this talk, Andrea will take us on a horseback ethnography journey through the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, the Kalahari of Botswana, the Meadows of Sweden and the Himalayas of Nepal. A multispecies ethnographer at the core, Andrea has increasingly engaged in artistic methods and expressions to develop 'artful' research methods within the social sciences. With an academic background in anthropology, rural development and theoretical philosophy, and a creative background in rhyming and cowboy poetry as well as drawing, Andrea shows how these practices have become crucial to her ethnographic research as methods to both collect data in the field and to analyse, theorise, and disseminate research results. Showcasing film, ethnographic poetry and analytical drawings, Andrea will explain how she developed the concept of 'the multispecies triad' and a multispecies intersectionality theory.