

Syllabus/Optional course

Title of the course:	Changing mountain communities and villages in the EUREGIO
Lecturers of the course:	<p>Prof. A. Besana, geographer, Department of Literature, Philosophy, Economical-Political Geography, University of Trento</p> <p>Dr. T. Boos, geographer, Faculty of Education, Free University Bozen-Balzano</p> <p>Dr. N. Gabellieri, geographer, Department of Literature, Philosophy, Economical-Political Geography, University of Trento</p> <p>Prof. K. Kuhn, European Ethnologist, Department of History and European Ethnology, University of Innsbruck</p> <p>Dr. D. Salvucci, sociocultural anthropologist, Faculty of Education, Free University Bozen-Balzano</p>
Study programmes:	<p>5-year master degree in Primary Education (BiWi5) – all sections</p> <p>Bachelor Communication Sciences and Culture</p> <p>Bachelor Social Education</p> <p>Bachelor Social Work</p> <p>Master Applied Linguistics</p> <p>Master IRIS</p>
Study year:	Optional course
Semester:	II (13 th and 14 th of May 2024)
Exam code:	12537
Scientific sector:	M-DEA/01, M-GGR/01
Total hours of lectures/laboratory:	16
Total consultation hours:	6
Credit points:	2
Language/es of instruction:	English
Attendance rules:	Requested
Educational objectives of the course:	<p>The course aims to introduce students to theories and methods of mountain studies, especially from sociocultural anthropology, geography, and European ethnology, focusing on Alpine EUREGIO environments. It will develop students' acquaintance with techniques of analysis of ecological, demographic, sociocultural, and political-economic dynamics of change (such as depopulation and repopulation phenomena, touristification, urbanization, and ecological crisis). It aims to develop a critical and reflexive approach to analyzing and describing contemporary sociocultural processes of transformation in Alpine communities and villages.</p>
Description of the course:	<p>Various academics in anthropology, geography, sociology, and economic sciences point out that communities and villages in the Euregio are characterized by demographic, social and economic changes which are also linked to environmental transformations and crises (e.g., climate, COVID-19). The two-day seminar and field trip will focus especially on the interrelation of social changes and environmental crisis, focusing on demographic and economic</p>

	<p>transformation, migration, tourism, urbanization and social conflicts in Alpine municipalities and villages. These complex processes can be best understood through a multidisciplinary dialogue, in situ research experiences, and by bringing into discussion students from the three universities.</p> <p>During the two-day course the students will get insights into current research from leading experts of the Alpine region, on turistification and landscape changes (Dr. Andreas Haller, geographer, Austrian Academy of Science), on migration and the relation between natural hazards and economic-social transformations (Prof. V. Cretton, anthropologist, University Western Switzerland), and on the relation between economic and environmental changes (Prof. S. Dalmazzone, economist, University of Turin). Further, the field trip will prepare the students in a practical way to understand, explore and reflect on the complex processes of transformation which occur in Euregio. Students will be able to apply the intellectual and practical knowledge, acquired through the course, in their further studies and in future work.</p>
<p>List of topics:</p>	<p>Social changes, environmental crisis, demographic and economic transformation, migration, tourism, urbanization, conflicts, and social dynamics in Alpine municipalities and villages of EUREGIO.</p>
<p>Description of the forms of teaching and learning:</p>	<p>The 2-day course includes a seminar at Bolzano-Bozen (six hours) and a field trip to the Ritten area (eight hours). A two-hour online meeting about the organization of the course will take place previous the 2-day course.</p> <p>The seminar entails a set of three lectures given by invited experts, followed by a practical workshop on geography and anthropology of the Alps, conducted by the teachers/experts from the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (unibz), the University of Innsbruck (uibk), and the University of Trento (unitn).</p> <p>During the field trip to the Ritten/Renon area the students, together with the experts and the teachers, will explore historical, sociocultural, economic, and territorial transformations of this area in situ by a guided tour and by applying research methods such as observations, short interviews, and mapping.</p> <p>The two-day course is open to a maximum of 24 students of the three universities involved. From each university, 8 students will be selected to participate. The 8 students from unibz will be selected on the base of their motivation letter of 200 words maximum to be sent to the unibz docents Dr. Tobias Boos (tboos@unibz.it) and Dr. Daniela Salvucci (Daniela.Salvucci@unibz.it).</p> <p>Accommodation, meals and transportation during the seminar and field trip are covered by the EUREGIO-Mobility found (no additional fee for students is required).</p>
<p>Expected learning outcomes:</p>	<p><i>Knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of basic concepts in cultural geography, socio-cultural anthropology, and European ethnology in relation to Alpine and mountain studies. • Acquisition of appropriate scientific languages for the description and analysis of social-cultural phenomena, especially regarding change in the Alpine ecological and socio-cultural environments. • Knowledge about the preparation and planning of field trips and excursions.

	<p>Applying knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to identify connections between academic concepts and social realities during the field trip. • Ability to apply social-scientific approaches and concepts to the analysis of concrete social-cultural dynamics of transformation. • Ability to apply social-scientific approaches and concepts in engaging scientific texts and research. <p>Making judgements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of critical and independent thinking regarding social-cultural phenomena. • Development of reflexive self-awareness in engaging social-cultural phenomena. <p>Communication skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to engage in scientific writing. • Ability to participate in scientifically grounded discussions and express an informed opinion. • Presentation and collaborative skills to carry out in group research task. <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to autonomously extend the knowledge acquired during the course in dealing with ecological and socio-cultural dynamics of change in Alpine environments. • Ability to acquire new concepts, information, and methods to analyze social-cultural dynamics of change. <p>Learning strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frontal lectures (by the three invited experts) • Interactive workshop and working in teams • Excursion <p>Assessment The 8 attending students from unibz will be assessed on the base of a short paper to be written on the base of their learning experience of the two-day course and the reading of one text to be chosen from the required reading session.</p>
Examination type:	A text of approx. 1.000 words (around 2 pages)
Exam language/es:	English, or German, or Italian
Evaluation criteria and criteria for the determination of marks earned:	Comprehension (of the chosen scientific article), coherence and reflexiveness of the discussion on the topic of the article in relation to the seminar lectures, the workshop, and fieldtrip experience.
Required reading:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boos T., Salvucci, D. 2022, Cultures in Mountain Areas. Comparative Perspectives. Introduction, in T. Boos, D. Salvucci (eds), <i>Cultures in mountain areas. Comparative perspectives</i>, Bu,Press, pp. 1-33. Open Access: https://bupress.unibz.it/en/produnkt/cultures-in-mountain-areas-comparative-perspectives/ • Cretton V., 2018, In search of a better world in the Swiss Alps: lifestyle migration, quality of life, and gentrification, in H. Horáková, A. Boscoboinik, & R. Smith (eds.), <i>Utopia</i>

	<p><i>and Neoliberalism: Ethnographies of rural spaces</i>, Lit Verlag, pp. 107-125.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalmazzone S., 2008, Economics and Policy of Biodiversity Loss, in C. Clini, M.L. Gullino, I. Musu, Yang X. (ed.), <i>Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection</i>, 451-466. • Haller A., Branca D., 2022, Urbanization and the Verticality of Rural–Urban Linkages in Mountains, in F. O. Sarmiento (ed.), <i>Montology Palimpsest A Primer of Mountain Geographies</i>, pp. 133-148. Springer. Open Access: https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-13298-8_7
<p>Supplementary reading:</p>	<p>Bender, O. & Karnitscheider, S. (2012). New immigration into the European Alps. Emerging research issues. <i>Mountain Research and Development</i>, 32(2), 235–241.</p> <p>Bätzing, W. (2015). <i>Die Alpen. Geschichte und Zukunft einer europäischen Kulturlandschaft</i>. C.H. Beck</p> <p>Bätzing, W., Perlik, M. & Dekleva, M. (1996). Urbanization and depopulation in the Alps. <i>Mountain Research and Development</i>, 16(4), 335–350</p> <p>Besana A., Gabellieri N., 2023, Dal GIS letterario allo sviluppo turistico locale: cartografia e itinerari odeporeici letterari in Trentino, Bollettino della associazione italiana di cartografia, 175, pp. 89-100.</p> <p>Boos T., Salvucci D., (eds), 2022, <i>Cultures in mountain areas. Comparative perspectives</i>, Bu,Press, pp. 1-33. Open Access: https://bupress.unibz.it/en/produnkt/cultures-in-mountain-areas-comparative-perspectives/</p> <p>Cole, J. W. & Wolf, E. R (1974). <i>The hidden frontier. Ecology and ethnicity in an Alpine valley</i>. University of California Press.</p> <p>Debarbieux, B. & Rudaz G. (2015). <i>The mountain. A political history from the enlightenment to the present</i> (J. M. Todd, Trans.). University of Chicago Press. (Orig. publ. 2010).</p> <p>Gabellieri N., Gallia A., Guadagno E., 2023, <i>Enogeografie. Itinerari geostorici e geografici dei paesaggi vitati, tra pianificazione e tutela ambientale</i>. Società Geografica Italiana. Open access: https://societageografica.net/wp/2023/05/23/vol-7-enogeografie/</p> <p>Krauß, W. (2018). Alpine landscapes in the Anthropocene: Alternative common futures. <i>Landscape Research</i>, 45(8), 1021–1031.</p> <p>Kuhn, K. J. 2022. Explorations into Alpine Culture. Narratives of the Walsers and Alpine Folklore Studies, in T. Boos, D. Salvucci (eds), <i>Cultures in mountain areas. Comparative perspectives</i>, Bu,Press, pp. 243-266.</p> <p>Mathieu, J. (2011). <i>The third dimension. A comparative history of mountains in the modern era</i>. The White Horse.</p>

Netting, R. M. (1981). *Balancing on an Alp: Ecological change and continuity in a Swiss mountain community*. Cambridge University Press.

Orlove, B. et al. (2019). Framing climate change in frontline communities: Anthropological insights on how mountain dwellers in the USA, Peru, and Italy adapt to glacier retreat. *Regional Environmental Change*, 19(5), 1295–1309.

Tauber E., Zinn D. L., 2023. *Malinowski and the Alps – Anthropological and Historical Perspectives*. Bu,press. Open Access: <https://bupress.unibz.it/en/produkt/malinowski-and-the-alps-anthropological-and-historical-perspectives/>

Viazzo, P. P. (1989). *Upland communities. Environment, population and social structure in the Alps since the sixteenth century*. Cambridge University.