

# Navigating inter- and transdisciplinary research: Analysing Positionality – Exploring Research Topographies

## Objective

This online workshops supports PhD candidates and postdocs working in inter- or transdisciplinary research fields in analyzing their own positionality and to explore the topography of their research field to better understand and navigate the complexity of boundary-crossing research.

## Description

- Where am I located in the landscape of knowledge and with regards to my research subject?
- Who and what is influencing my thinking and acting in my research field?
- What are theoretical backgrounds or stocks of knowledge my research relies on and how do they relate to each other?
- Are there tensions or contradictions inherent to my research? And how do different methodologies or methods fit together?

These are questions often arised when researching in-between disciplines, in interdisciplinary knowledge fields, when disciplinary boundaries are transcended or in trans-sector collaboration. Researchers working inter- or transdisciplinarily are often challenged to delimit their research field, to locate themselves in the landscape of knowledge, to understand their role and relationship with the subject of research and to keep track and orientation in an often messy and changing research environment. This workshop provides you with the necessary conceptual vocabulary to precisely describe your inter- or transdisciplinary research endeavor and introduces you to the concepts of researcher positionality and research topography. You will then be guided in analyzing your own positionality and in exploring the topography of your own research field. You will learn to characterize the type of inter- and transdisciplinary research you pursue and to systematize different stocks of knowledge, theories and methods, as well as roles, interests and constellations of involved persons that constitute your research field. By the end of the workshop you will have gained a fresh and profound view on your own research field and ideas for adaptations, where necessary.

## Methodology

The online workshop combines short presentations with individual tasks and group-work. The results will be presented and discussed with all participants.

## Conditions

If you are currently pursuing or working in an on-going inter- or transdisciplinary research project and willing to work on a set of questions in preparation to the workshop you are very welcome to this course! Basic knowledge on inter- and transdisciplinarity or participation in the course 'Introductory workshop to inter- and transdisciplinarity' (SS 2021) are beneficial. Alternatively, introductory texts that provide you with a conceptual vocabulary of inter- and transdisciplinarity will be recommended to be explored in advance.

## Organizational Information

Language	English
Target group	Doctoral Candidates at all stages and Postdocs from all faculties
Date	Thursday-Friday, 28-29 October 2021, 9:00 – 13:00
Registration	<a href="#">For registration click here</a>

## Trainer



apl. Prof. Dr. Ulli Vilsmaier

Ulli Vilsmaier is an international expert in inter- and transdisciplinary research. Her work is grounded in a responsive logic that is oriented towards the complementarity of cultures of knowing, acting and being. She is specialized in designing, accompanying, and implementing boundary-crossing research and develops methods for interface design and boundary work and has large experiences with research development worldwide. She has been supervising PhD and Master thesis of social and cultural scientists, artist and designers in Sustainability Science, Geography, Education and the Humanities.