COURSE DETAIL

URBAN SENSORY ANTHROPOLOGY
Country Germany
Host Institution Humboldt University Berlin
Program(s) Humboldt University Berlin
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Anthropology
UCEAP Course Number 112
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title URBAN SENSORY ANTHROPOLOGY
UCEAP Transcript Title URBAN SENSORY ANTH
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description
This course offers conceptual and methodological training for students to become multisensory-aware urban anthropologists. Through reading and hands-on workshops combining anthropological debates on the senses, sensoriality, and sensing with a series of experiential walks and other types of engagements, students search to understand how a city feels. The course immerses students in an exploration of what role our embodied senses play in order to be able to live in and thrive on its streets, squares, and parks. For this, students are sensitized to the understanding that a sensible approach for any urban anthropologist needs to start from expanding the reach of what the sensory means, in order to capture the complex environments that our cities constitute, thus learning to recognize the variegated human and more-than-human inhabitants that make our cities much more complex sentient ecologies. The training and explorations not only search to foreground student's experiential engagement as ethnographers of the urban, but search to unfold methods to approach the not-so-easy to describe, and sometimes unfathomable sentient worlds of a wide variety of human and animal bodies, as well as to understand human relations with not-so-inert urban materials (the city's material components, as well as gases or pollution, or responsive digital sensors). Drawing inspiration from a series of artistic and activist explorations into the sensory awareness of cities, the main outcome of the course is to collaboratively produce a toolkit for the urban appreciation of the sentient city in all its vastness, helping to equip others to venture into the many complexities of urban sensing practices.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
51705

Host Institution Course Title
THE SENTIENT CITY: TOWARDS AN ANTHROPOLOGY OF URBAN SENSING PRACTICES

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus PHILOSOPHISCHE FAKULTÄT
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Europäische Ethnologie
Course Last Reviewed

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