



WORKSHOP

Practices of Teamwork

16 – 17 November 2018

Iwalewahaus

Friday, 16.11.2018	
9:30 – 10:20	Valerie Hänisch <i>Opening and idea of the Workshop</i>
10:30 – 11:20	Kurt Beck <i>Teamwork as Practice</i>
coffee break	
11:40 – 12:30	Barbara Polak <i>Looking and Singing: The role of cooperation and coordination in Bamana peasants' daily work</i>
lunch	
14:00 – 14:50	Jamila Dorner <i>Teamwork in South Indian Dance: The Making of a Bharatanatyam Dance Show</i>
15:00 – 15:50	Nora Niethammer <i>Working collectively: Rehearsing Aristophanes at Theater Bremen</i>
coffee break	
16:10 – 17:00	Gerd Spittler <i>Karl Bücher on teamwork</i>
17:10 – 18:00	End of the day discussion discussant Trevor Marchand



Saturday, 17.11.2018	
9:30 – 10:20	Friedarike Santner <i>Collaboration and Egalitarian Teams in International Projects</i>
10:30 – 11:20	Rami Wadelnour <i>Becoming a driver on the Forty Days Road - learning to work together</i>
coffee break	
11:40 – 12:30	Christian Brandt <i>Blood, toil, smelly socks and sweat: The work of kit managers in Non-League football</i>
lunch	
14:00 – 14:50	Basil Ibrahim <i>Waiting Together: Waiting as Work among Motorcycle Taxis in Nairobi</i>
15:00 – 15:50	Sebastian Müller <i>Cooperation and Charity</i>
coffee break	
16:10 – 17:00	Nafsika Papacharalampous <i>Cooking inner darkness and making kin: Behind the staff only doors</i>
17:10 – 18:00	final discussion, discussant Mai Azzam

How do people work together? People rarely work alone; often, they coordinate their activities with others. In this workshop, we will be discussing different practices of teamwork, taking a particular interest in how people coordinate their activities in concrete work situations. How do masons organise their tasks on a building site? How does a pit stop team perform the changing of four wheels in mere seconds? How do musicians play together, with or without a conductor? How does a football team communicate during a match in ways that the other team's players cannot decipher, even if they notice them?

Work is one of the most important topics in anthropology. How people use tools and how they interact with the material world has been discussed a great deal in this context, yet there are few studies that deal with cooperation and teamwork. This is surprising, because teamwork is a social practice per se. We are looking for thick descriptions of the working practices in and by which workers establish and sustain a common workflow; how they challenge, urge and spur on one another, while working simultaneously or alternately at a common task; how they exchange tools, materials,



and/or information. How do workers relate to each other using words, gestures or any other codes? We are particularly interested in non-verbal aspects of everyday working practises.

A team working together on a project often consists of several workers with different competencies. Who knows and sees what, in such a team? To what extent does each individual have an overview of the work of the others, and of the project or activity as a whole? And what causes people to come together for work at all? Does their own performance and/or that of the team as a whole have any effect beyond the project or activity itself? Can it gain or lose them social prestige, status and/or money? Do hierarchies, dependencies, or differences play a role in the distribution of tasks, and if so, of what kind? Finally, is there a material expression of their cooperation – i.e., is the fact of their cooperation visible in their work's result?