

PROF. DR. URTE UNDINE FRÖMMING

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Curriculum Vitae

RESEARCH and TEACHING INTERESTS

Environmental Anthropology, Anthropology and Disaster, Climate Impact and Global Environmental Change (coping and adaptation Strategies, Local Knowledge- Mythology and Sustainability Research); Visual and Media Anthropology, Virtual Cultures Research

Regional Interests and Research Experience

South East Asia (Indonesia), East Africa (Tanzania) and Europe (Iceland)

Current research projects

Climate change in the Alps: Visualization and Mapping of Local Knowledge (BMBF, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research)

In preparation: "Religion in Global Environmental and Climate Change" ERC Advanced Grant (European Research Council) together with Prof. Sigurd Bergmann (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim; Dr. Dieter Gerten (Potsdam Institute of Climate impact Research, Research Domain II: Climate Impacts and Vulnerabilities)

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

- 2002-2005 **PhD "(Dis-) Continuity of Nature. Natural Risks and Disasters: Cultural Imagination, Impact and Coping"** (*Dis-kontinuität der Natur. Kulturelle Wahrnehmung, Bedeutung und Verarbeitung von Naturgefahren und Naturkatastrophen*) (magna cum laude)
Freie Universität Berlin, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Ute Luig, Prof. Dr. Susanne Schröter
- 1993-1999 **MA Social and Cultural Anthropology (first class) Philosophy, South East Asia Studies. Master thesis: "Volcano's and Volcano rituals in Flores, Indonesia. Cultural Construction and Imagination of Nature"**
Final grade: A (Excellent): Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt Universität Berlin
- 1991-1993 African Language Sciences, Greek Philology, Goethe Universität Frankfurt

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

June 2009-	Junior Professor for Social and Cultural Anthropology, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Freie Universität Berlin
2005-2009	Research Associate: Research area Anthropology of Nature, Disaster and Sustainability Research, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Freie Universität Berlin, (faculty member, full time)
2000-2005	Research Associate (faculty member, part time) Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Freie Universität Berlin

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

Since 2010	Deputy Head of Department, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology
Since 2009	Head of the Research Area "Anthropology of Nature, Disaster and Sustainability Research", Freie Universität Berlin
Since 2008	Director of the M.A Program in Visual and Media Anthropology
Since 2001	Member of Department Council
2001-2003	Member of Budget Commission of the Department of Political and Social Sciences
Since 2005	E-Learning Coordinator
2006-2007	Erasmus Coordinator
2005-2008	Development of the MA Program Social and Cultural Anthropology (Profile Module Environment, Nature, Humans), development of the MA Program Visual and Media Anthropology

RESEARCH GRANTS, HONORS and SCHOLARSHIPS

2011-2014	Alpine risks in times of Climate Change. Pattern of Impacts and Coping Strategies from 18th to 21st Century (<i>Alpine Naturgefahren im Klimawandel</i>) BMBF: German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, joint research project. Principal Investigators: Prof. W. Dombrowsky, Dr. Voss (Kristian Albrechts-Universität Kiel), Prof. U Frömming (Freie Universität Berlin), Prof. Suda (TU Munic), Irmi Seidl (Swiss Research Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape) Research Associates: Dr. Josef Bordat, Christian Reichel. 855.000 Euro
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2007	Sustainability and Excellence: E-learning at the Department of Politics and Social Sciences (together with Dr. von Oppeln, (CediS - Center for Digital Systems) 75.000 Euro
2005	E-learning platform for the course Media-Anthropology (Lernplattform für das Seminar. <i>Medienethnologie</i> im Studienschwerpunkt Visuelle Anthropologie) CediS - Center for digital Systems) 8.000 Euro
2001-2002	Coping with Natural Disasters in Iceland: Cognitive und Practical Strategies Scholarship from the Womens' Commission, Freie Universität Berlin). 4500 Euro
January 1998	Invited Research Fellow: Candraditya Research Centre for the Study of Religion and Culture in Maumere, Flores-Ntt, Indonesia

FIELDWORK

November 1997 - March 1998 Fieldwork in Indonesia: Coping with volcano eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis, local knowledge and adaptation strategies in Flores-NTT.

August - October 2000 Fieldwork in Iceland: Coping with Natural Disasters: Cognitive und Practical Strategies (scholarship from the Womens' Commission of Freie Universität Berlin).

September - November 2001 Fieldwork Kilimanjaro region, Tanzania. Climate impacts: Touristic Appropriation of African Nature in Aesthetic Modernity (funded by Freie Universität Berlin)

MEMBERSHIPS AND POSITIONS

2010- European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment

2008- Chairperson of KatNet e.V. (Katastrophennetz) Network of Disaster Research

2007- Work Group "Nature risks" of the German Association for Geography (DGfG)

2007- Work Group Visual Anthropology of the German Anthropological Association

GRANT PROPOSAL REVIEWS FOR

- Thyssen Foundation
- DAAD German Academic Exchange Service

ORGANISATION OF CONFERENCES, COLLOQUIA AND WORKSHOPS

- Colloquium: “New Perspectives in Visual Anthropology”, Winter semester 2008/2009
- Long Night of Science: Ethnographic Film Program: Topic: “Environmental Anthropology”, June 2008
- “Disasters and Climate Impacts in Global media Spaces“, Third KatNet-Conference (Network of Disaster Research): Freie Universität Berlin, July 2007
- “Nature in Modernity. Interdisciplinary Perspectives“. Colloquium, Freie Universität Berlin, winter semester 2001/2002

SUPERVISION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Doctoral students:

Christian Reichel: Climate change and local knowledge in Indonesia and the Alps (funded by BMBF, Federal Ministry of Education and Research)

Cyrrill Lachauer: Robinson Break. Images and Appropriation of the Sea

Tobias Becker: Vertical Wilderness. Imagination und Localisation at Bugarech and Canigou

Kani Tuyala: Africa Online How World Wide is the Web? Africa between Adaptation and audio-visual Innovation (funded by DAAD German Academic Exchange Service)

Master students (selection):

2009 Klinger, Sascha: From Catastrophe Aid Camp to NPO-Center. The Takatori Community Center: Integration of minorities through civil society and civil media. The formation of a radio station after the Kobe earthquake from 1995 (Freie Universität Berlin, 2009)

Litz, Anne: Imagination off the Kilimanjaro region from European and Tanzanian Perspective (Freie Universität Berlin, 2009)

Klose-Gerlich Frederik: Conflicts about Oil Production in Ecuador: Stakeholders, their Interest, Strategies and Environmental Concepts (Freie Universität Berlin, 2008)

Florian Weiß: Marine Usage of Resources between Tradition and Modernity. The Bajau of Tukanbesi-Archipel in Indonesia (Freie Universität Berlin, 2007)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses at Freie Universität Berlin

Winter 2010/11	Colloquium for graduate students in Environmental Anthropology
Winter 2010/11	Simulating Ethnographic Fieldwork in virtual worlds (graduate) 3D-E-learning course
Summer 2010	Colloquium for graduate students in Environmental Anthropology
Summer 2010	Social Anthropology in Virtual Worlds (graduate) 3D-E-learning course
Winter 2009/10	Professional Perspectives for Visual and Media Anthropologists
Winter 2009/10	Colloquium for undergraduate and graduate students in Environmental Anthropology
Summer 2009	Social Anthropology in Virtual Worlds (graduate) 3D-E-learning
Winter 2008/09	Colloquium for undergraduate and graduate students in Environmental Anthropology course
Summer 2008	Cultural Anthropology in Virtual Worlds (undergraduate)
Winter 2007/08	Visual Anthropology
Summer 2007	Colloquium for BA and MA students
Summer 2007/08	Climate change and Natural Disaster. Anthropological and Trans-Disciplinary perspectives (graduate)
Winter 2006/07	Self organized Ethnographic Fieldwork (graduate)
Summer 2006	Self organized Ethnographic Fieldwork (graduate)
Winter 2005/06	Media-Anthropology (E-learning and in-house-classes)
Summer 2005	Visual Anthropology. Cooperation with TV companies
Winter 2004/05	Theory of Modernity
Summer 2004	Experimental Documentary
Winter 2003/04	Theory and Praxis of Visual Anthropology
Summer 2003	Visual Anthropology
Winter 2002/03	Disaster, Process and Change
Winter 2001/02	Evaluation of the Excursion to Tanzania
Summer 2001	Supervision of graduate students in Tanzania (three month)
Winter 2001/02	Applied Anthropology: Tanzania
Winter 2000/01	Political Anthropology (undergraduate)
Summer 2000	Anthropology and Nature (undergraduate and graduate)
Winter 1999/00	Conflict, Social Drama, Performance (undergraduate and graduate)

PUBLICATIONS AND LECTURES

BOOKS

MONOGRAPHS

- 2006 Frömming, U.: Naturkatastrophen. Kulturelle Deutung und Verarbeitung (Natural Disasters: Cultural Interpretation and Coping), Frankfurt am Main: Campus Verlag.

EDITED VOLUMES

- 2007 Frömming, U. (Guest editor) Journal Ethnologie 5/2007 Special Issue "Digitale Welten" (Digital Worlds) with Ulrike Krasberg
- 2004 Dilger, H., Wolf, A., Frömming U., Volker-Saad, K. (eds.) Moderne und postkoloniale Transformation (Modernity and postcolonial Transformation), Berlin: Weissensee

ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- 2009 Frömming, U. Kilimanjaro's Melting Glaciers. On the Colonial and Postcolonial Perception and Appropriation of African Nature. In: Neveling, Patrick, Wergin, Carsten: Large Scale Tourism in Small Scale Societies, special issue in *Etnográfica* 13 (2): 395-416
- 2009 Reichel Ch., Frömming, U., Glaser, M.: Conflicts between stakeholder groups affecting the ecology and economy of the Segara Anakan region in: *Regional Environmental Change*, Vol. 9, (4) Special issue on "Segara Anakan, Java, Indonesia, a mangrove-fringed coastal lagoon affected by human activities"; Guest Editors: Tim C. Jennerjahn and Edy Yuwono
- 2005 Frömming, U. Der Zwang zum Geständnis. Friedensrituale und Mythologie im Kontext von Naturkatastrophen auf Flores (Ostindonesien). (The Compulsion to Make a Confession. Peace Rituals and Mythology within the Context of Natural Disasters in Flores (Eastern Indonesia) In: *Anthropos* 100: 2005: 379-388. [Link to abstract here](#)

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES AND ENCYCLOPEDIA

- 2010 Frömming, U.: Künstliche Natur: Feldforschung in virtuellen Kulturen und Landschaften (*Artificial Nature: Fieldwork in Virtual Cultures and Landscapes*). In: Schultz, Dorothea und Seebode, Jochen (eds.) Prisma und Spiegel: Ethnologie zwischen postkolonialer Kritik und Deutung der eigenen Gesellschaft (Ethnology between postcolonial critic and interpretation of the own society), Hamburg, 302-316.
- 2010 Frömming, U.: Visuellanthropologische Betrachtung von Mimesis und Camouflage am Beispiel der Arbeiten von Desiree Palmen (*Visual Anthropological Considerations of Camouflage and Mimesis: The work of Desiree Palmen*. In: *Ilinx- Berliner Beiträge zur Kulturwissenschaft* (2) 2010.

- 2008 Frömring, Klimawandel und kulturhistorische Prädispositionen. Über den Wandel der ästhetischen und affektiven Wahrnehmung von Umwelt und Naturgefahren in der okzidentalen Moderne (*Climate change: Cultural and Historical Predispositions. Changing Aesthetic and Affective Imagination of the Environment and of Disasters*). In: Herrmann, Bernd (ed.), Beiträge zum Umwelthistorischen Kolloquium (Environmental-historical Colloquium) 2007-2008, Göttingen, 65-86.
- 2007 Frömring, U.: Fußspuren in der Lava. Friedensrituale bei Vulkanausbrüchen in Ost-Flores (*Footprints in Lava: Rituals of Peace during Volcano Eruptions*). In: Journal Ethnologie, Themenschwerpunkt Religion im Alltag
- 2004 Frömring, U.: Schneeschmelze am Kilimanjaro. Über die touristische Aneignung afrikanischer Natur in der ästhetischen Moderne, In: Dilger, Hansjörg, Wolf, Angelika, Frömring Urte Undine, Volker-Saad, Kerstin (Hg.): Moderne und postkoloniale Transformation, Berlin: Weißensee Verlag, 258-274
- 2004 Frömring, U., Dilger, H.: Einleitung: Moderne und postkoloniale Transformation in einer vernetzten Welt (*Introduction: Modernity and postcolonial Transformation in an entangled World*) In: Moderne und postkoloniale Transformation. Schrift für Ute Luig zum 60. Geburtstag. Hg. von Dilger, Hansjörg, Wolf Angelika, Frömring, Urte Undine, Volker-Saad Kerstin, Berlin: Weißensee, 1-17
- 2005 Frömring, U.: "Volcanoes" (with Judith Schlehe) Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature (ERN), Bron Tylor et al. (Hg.), Continuum International, Entry, London, New York.
- 2002 Frömring, U.: Vulkane und Gesellschaft. Naturaneignung auf Flores (Indonesien). (*Volcanoes and Society: Appropriation of Nature in Flores (Indonesia)*). In: Luig, Ute, Schultz, H.D. (Hg.) Natur in der Moderne. Interdisziplinäre Ansichten, Berlin: Berliner Geographische Arbeiten 93: 165-186.
- 2001 Frömring, U.: Volcanoes: Symbolic Places of Resistance. Political Appropriation of Nature in Flores, Indonesia. In: Wessel, Ingrid; Wimhöfer, Georgia (Hg.): Violence in Indonesia, Hamburg: Abera

INVITED LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2010 Panel discussant: 8th INST World Conference CCKS, Cities, Cultures and Knowledge Society (UNESCO). Section title: *Cities, Cultures and Language in virtual worlds*. "Universities in Virtual Worlds". Organization: INST Vienna, Austria and in Second Life: November 26, 2010.
- 2010 *Paper: "Visual Anthropology in Virtual Culture: The Construction of Culture through Language and Image"*. Slanguages conference, organisation: University of Manchester, UK: October 15, 2010.
- 2010 (Together with Christian Reichel) paper: "*Indigenous People under Climate Change: Regional Examples*" Workshop: *Religion in Global Environmental and Climate Change: Sufferings, Values, Lifestyles*, Potsdam, Germany, organized by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (Dieter Gerten), the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim (Sigurd Bergmann) and the University of Greifswald (Konrad Ott) in association with the European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment: January 11-13, 2010.

- 2009 "Visual anthropology 3-D: Visuelle Anthropologie in dreidimensionalen virtuellen Kulturen und Landschaften". (*paper: "Visual Anthropology 3-D: Visual Anthropology in three-dimensional Virtual Cultures and Landscapes"*) Institut colloquium Institut für Europäische Ethnologie, Humboldt Universität Berlin: November 10, 2009.
- 2009 DGV-Tagung Vortrag: "Ethnographic Machinima. Kulturelle Aneignungen virtueller Räume" (*paper: "Ethnographic Machinima. Cultural Appropriation of virtual environments"*) conference of German Anthropological Association: Topic: "Cultural Appropriations. Camouflage." (Kulturelle Aneignungen - Anverwandlung – Camouflage). Goethe University, Frankfurt / Main: September 30 - October 3, 2009
- 2009 Participation Workshop "Virtuelle Welten - 3D-Seminar- und Tagungsorte als internationale und hochschulübergreifende E-Learning-Architekturen" Pre-Conference "E-Learning 2009: Lernen im Digitalen Zeitalter" (*Virtual Worlds – 3D Courses as international E-learning Architectures*, Freie Universität Berlin: September 14, 2009.
- 2008 Keynote speaker: "Philosophische und juristische Perspektiven auf die Risikovorsorge im Kontext des Klimawandels" (*"Philosophical and Judicial Perspectives on Risk Prevention"*). "Fourth Workshop of the Disaster Network: Paradigmenwechsel in der Risikovorsorge. Vom Umgang mit Naturgefahren (Change of Paradigm. Risk Prevention – Dealing with Natural Risks), Lutherstadt-Wittenberg " May 16, 2008.
- 2007 "Virtuelle Parallel- und Gegenwelten. Mit dem Avatar und visuellanthropologischen Methoden auf der Suche nach dem kulturell Unsichtbaren". (*paper: Searching with the Avatar for the Hidden Structures of Culture*) Johann Wolfgang Goethe Universität, Institut für Historische Ethnologie, Frankfurt am Main: December 18, 2007.
- 2007 "Digital iconic turn. Über die Bedeutung globaler Digitalisierungsprozesse für die ethnologische Forschung und Theoriebildung", (*paper: "Digital Iconic turn about the Meaning of Global Processes of Digitalization for Ethnographic Research and Theory"*) Tagung der deutschen Gesellschaft für Völkerkunde: Streifragen – Zum Verhältnis von empirischer Forschung und Theoriebildung am Anfang des 21. Jahrhunderts; *conference topic: Matter of Dispute: Empirical Research and Theory*. Martin-Luther-Universität Halle (Saale): October 1-4, 2007.
- 2007 "Kontinuitäten von Mythen und neuen Medien" (*paper: "Continuity of Myths and new Media"*) Institut colloquium "Medien, Kultur, Kommunikation". Institut für Ethnologie und Afrikastudien, University Mainz: January 23, 2007.
- 2007 "Klimawandel und Naturkatastrophen. Eine Kulturgeschichte der veränderten Beziehung des Menschen zur Natur" (*paper: "Climate change and Natural Disasters. A Cultural History of the Changing Relationship Between Humans and Nature"*) Workshop: "Perspektiven der Katastrophe. Interdisziplinäre Annäherung an den Umgang mit alpinen Gefahren (*conference topic: Perspectives of Disasters. Alpine Risks: Interdisciplinary Approaches*). Fischhausen/Neuhaus: January 11-13, 2007.
- 2006 "Prävention und Bewältigung von Naturkatastrophen in Indonesien: Lokales Wissen, Early Warning Systeme und globale Katastrophenhilfe", (*paper: "Prevention and Coping with Natural Disasters in Indonesia: Local knowledge, Early Warning Systems and Global Catastrophe Aid"*). Conference topic: Dimensionen der Katastrophe - Herausforderung für Forschung und Praxis " (*Dimensions of Disasters – Challenges for Sciences and Practice*". Centre for Environmental Research, Leipzig: June 20-21, 2006.

- 2006 "Moral, Mythologie und Ritual im Kontext von Naturkatastrophen" (paper: "Morality, Mythology and Ritual in context of Natural Disasters", ESSA-Spring Conference, German Association of Sociology, University Passau. Conference topic: "Gesellschaftliche Effekte von Naturkatastrophen und Zusammenbrüchen sozialer Ordnung" ("*Social Effects of Natural Disasters and Crashes of Social Order*") May, 11-13, 2006.
- 2006 "Kulturhistorische Deutungen und Verarbeitung von Naturkatastrophen in Indonesien" (paper: "*Natural Disaster in Indonesia: Cultural and Historical Coping Strategies*"), Frobenius Institut, Frankfurt am Main: February 2, 2006.
- 2005 "Earthquake in Pakistan" (paper: "*Social Anthropology and catastrophe aid*"), Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Freie Universität Berlin: December 12, 2005.
- 2003 *Kelimutu in Indonesia: About the political Meaning of Color Changes of the Triplet Crater Lakes*, Institut für Ethnologie, Freie Universität Berlin: May 5, 2003.
- 2002 "Katastrophenrituale: Systemtheoretische Überlegungen. (paper: "*Rituals of Disaster: Considerations in System Theory*")", Colloquium in Social Anthropology, Freie Universität Berlin: January 21, 2002.
- 2001 Paper: "Volcanoes and Resistance. Political Appropriation of Nature in Flores, Indonesia". Conference: "Conflicts and Violence in Indonesia", Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Humboldt University Berlin: July 3-5, 2000.