

# Global Studies Retreat FS 2021

## Online meeting, May 21-22, 2021

### Information and Program for Participants

The Global Studies Retreat offers an opportunity for PhD candidates to exchange ideas about their current work outside the ordinary university environment and among an interdisciplinary group of peers. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the retreat will take place as an online event.



The group activities of the retreat comprise three parts:

- A.** Given the current circumstances of Coronavirus outbreak and its subsequent impact, participants are required to read the introduction and three chapters (8, 9 & 10) of the book *Purity and Danger* by Mary Douglas. With the aim to reflect on concepts such as “contamination” and “otherness”, we propose to exchange our thoughts about the global phenomenon of the current crisis and its different interpretations.
- B.** Each participant provides a short text of their own (0.5 to 10 pages) that she/he wants to discuss with colleagues. Participants are expected to read all of the texts provided by their peers in advance in order to discuss them during the retreat (40 min. for each text work). For this text work, participants are encouraged to speak their own language. The passive understanding of English, French, German, Spanish is welcome (simultaneous translations will be provided where necessary).

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C. We finish with the experiment of “cocktail speech”: each participant presents a cocktail receipt of her/his own in which the ingredients correspond to elements of their own research project in a coherent and funny way. For example: “My research consists on 2 cl fieldwork and 2 drops of participant observation shaken cold...”. So, participants are encouraged to previously think about a cocktail with or without alcohol, of course, with the aim to paraphrase their research project.

### Program

#### Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

13:30	Welcome
13:45-14:15	Introduction round of each participant
14:15-14:30	Break
14:30-15:45	Pandemics as a social and global phenomenon (A)
15:45-16:00	Break
16:00-17:00	Text work (B1)
17:00-17:15	Break
17:15-18:15	Text work (B2)
18:15-18:30	Break
18:30-19:30	Cocktail speech: let’s relax together with a drink! (C)

#### Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

09:15-10:15	Text work (B3)
10:15-10:45	Coffee break
10:45-11:45	Text work (B4)
11:45-12:00	Final discussion

### Preparation

- Upload a text of your own on ILIAS at least **two weeks** before the event startdate. Please note that any kind of text (also work in progress) up to 10 pages can be uploaded (abstracts, section of the thesis, drafts, presentations, etc.)  
Link to ILIAS: [https://ilias.unibe.ch/goto\\_ilias3\\_unibe\\_crs\\_1780122.html](https://ilias.unibe.ch/goto_ilias3_unibe_crs_1780122.html)
- Each participant is expected to have read all the texts in advance and to bring printed versions. While reading, mark the texts with:
  - + or ++ for sections considered interesting, successful
  - ? or ?? for sections considered unintelligible, unclearFor every text: Think about one or two core arguments of the text
- Students are required to read the texts which form the basis for our discussion on Pandemics as a social and global phenomenon.
- Link to ILIAS: [https://ilias.unibe.ch/goto\\_ilias3\\_unibe\\_crs\\_1780122.html](https://ilias.unibe.ch/goto_ilias3_unibe_crs_1780122.html)