Call for applications

Masterclass with Prof. Nurit Bird-David (Haifa)
Indigenous insights for today’s changing society and environment
June 25th – 26th 2022, Frankfurt a.M.

Outline
For three centuries, indigenous cultures have drawn scholastic and popular attention with focus on issues arising from the realities, experiences and standpoints of those living in and studying modern society. In recent decades, we have turned to them for insights on other-than-modern approaches to the environment in line with growing concerns over global environmental issues. Meanwhile, digital technology has been changing global social life, with a new repertoire of digitally-based institutions, experiences terms and issues. In this masterclass, we will address indigenous perceptions of the environment yet also attend to their other-than-modern modes of society, community, sociality and collectivity. The twofold aim will be to refine our own understanding of indigenous cultures and gain insights and models ‘good to think with’ about today’s changing society and environment. Participants are invited to draw on their research and ethnography and consider subjects of their choice that are relevant to this overall theme, for example: sharing, connectedness, social networks, perceptions of strangers, virtual presence and more. The masterclass will be largely dedicated to participants’ work and begin with an initial orientation discussing selected readings on indigenous perceptions of the environment, ‘society’ as a cultural construct, hunter-gatherers’ sociality and sociological theory for digital society.

Application details
Please send an abstract of your research (250 words max) and questions you would like to discuss to Holger Jebens (Jebens@em.uni-frankfurt.de) by 30 April 2022.

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