

SEMESTRE DE PRINTEMPS **2022**
Forum du Master en sociologie

La ville des différences

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Espace 3DD
Rue David-Dufour 3, Genève | Entrée libre

**AFFECTION OVERRULED!
UNDERSTANDING
UNIFORMISATION OF
PERI-URBAN AREAS THROUGH
COGNITIVE-PSYCHOLOGICAL
EXPERIMENTS**

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FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES
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Affection overruled! Understanding uniformisation of peri-urban areas through cognitive-psychological experiments

Across the world, urban areas are growing twice as fast as urban populations. This transformation takes place where urban and rural land uses closely blend and form a new type of landscape, which is neither rural nor urban, often called the peri-urban area. While this peri-urbanization process takes place in highly different contexts all over the world, globalization processes and new migration patterns are fostering an uniformisation of these areas. Using cognitive-psychological experiments, we demonstrate how peri-urban areas lead to significantly more negative affective reactions than urban and rural areas, but preferences of people for living in such areas are higher than living in urban or rural areas. Furthermore, we observe that the affective responses are related to various indicators of place attachment, place dependency and place identity, as well as low visual features of the landscapes. Applied in various case studies in Europe, the same experiment will help improve our understanding of and empirical evidence for recurrent patterns and processes of place-making in a set of typical peri-urban landscapes.

Informations

unige.ch/sciences-societe/socio/forum2022

Organisation: **Sandro Cattacin, Fiorenza Gamba** et **Nerea Viana Alzola**

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Adrienne Grêt-Regamey is an environmental scientist and landscape planner. She has been Professor at the Chair of Planning Landscape and Urban Systems at the Institute for Spatial and Landscape Development, ETH Zürich (Switzerland) since 2008. Currently, her research focuses on understanding how the interactions and/or actions of humans shape landscapes at various temporal and spatial scales, using different land-use decision models in forecasting and backcasting modes. For fostering participatory landscape planning, she investigates how people perceive the landscape in the three labs, where state-of-the-art 3D visualizations and auralizations of landscape changes are generated and decision support tools developed. She also explores how an iterative process between design and science can allow co-creating place specific responses satisfying human needs and demands for well-being in a sustainable manner. She has published more than 150 peer-reviewed publications. In 2017, she received an ERC Starting Grant for the project GLOBESCAPE linking design and land system science to foster place-making in peri-urban landscapes.

Eric D. Widmer is professor of sociology at the Department of sociology and director of the Institute of sociological research at the University of Geneva. He is also co-director of the LIVES-Center that studies the effects of the economy and post-industrial society on the evolution of situations of vulnerability through longitudinal and comparative studies. His long-term interests include intimate ties, family and other interpersonal relations, life course research and social networks. Along with others, he has been developing for a decade research on families in a configurational perspective.