

Graduate School of Humanities
and Social Sciences

UNIVERSITÄT
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LUCERNE GRADUATE LECTURE

How (Should) We Research Policy that Saves Lives? Approaching the War on Smoking

Prof. Simone Dennis, Australian National University

THURSDAY, 30 MARCH, 2017, 6.15 P.M.
UNIVERSITY OF LUCERNE, ROOM 3.B48

In Cooperation with the Department of Ethnology

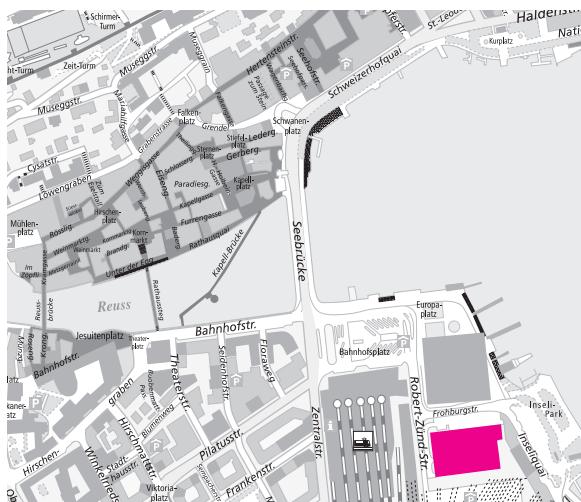
About



Prof. Simone Dennis is Head of Anthropology at the College of Arts and Social Sciences at the Australian National University. She is an award-winning lecturer and an acclaimed international scholar whose research interests coalesce around embodiment, the senses, and power. She has written on how the politics of nationhood in contemporary Australia have played out for Christmas Island's multi-ethnic population, has spent time with and published on Persian women migrants who have fled Iran in the past two decades, and has conducted research on the technoscientific spaces of major Australian research laboratories in which mice and rats feature as animal models for human disease research. But Prof. Dennis is probably best known for the work contained in her fourth book *Smokefree: A Social, Moral and Political Atmosphere* from which she develops the topic of her talk.

Lecture

Although tobacco is a legal substance, governments around the world have introduced legislation to restrict smoking and access to tobacco products. Many legislative changes have been ushered in, from the increasing numbers of places being designated as 'smokefree' to changes in cigarette packaging and the portrayal of smoking in popular culture. These changes have marked up an increasingly polarized atmosphere – either you are for smoking, or against it. In academia, this polarity has translated into examinations of discourses either concerned with the erosion of individual rights, or the advancement of a life-saving public health agenda. Examining the changes in legislation themselves, and the way they have been approached in scholarly work gives us great insight into how anthropologists, particularly, have approached smoking. Yet this talk is also aimed at a general audience, scholars from the fields of anthropology, sociology, political science, cultural studies, philosophy, economics, and health sciences as well as public health specialists.



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