

CHARLINE KOPF

Date of birth: 28.12.1992
Nationality: Luxembourgish / French
Phone: +47 46335784
Email: charline.kopf@sai.uio.no
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4473-3471>



EDUCATION

- 2022 **Ph.D. – Dept. of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo (UiO) and Dept. of Social Anthropology, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven)**
Anthropology of Human Security Programme (ANTHUSIA) funded by the EU Horizon 2020 programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement.
Title: *Dakar-Bamako: Waiting for a Train back to the Future* with fieldwork in Senegal, France, Mali.
Supervisors: Dr. Wenzel Geissler (UiO) and Dr. Filip de Boeck (KU Leuven)
Short Course *Archives in Non-Fiction Cinema*, University College London, UK (2021)
Summer School *Ethnographic & Documentary Filmmaking*, University of Manchester (2022)
- 2018 **MPhil in Social Anthropology – School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, University of Oxford**
Thesis: *Dakar's Museum of Black Civilisations: Towards an imaginary of a post-postcolonial world order* with Fieldwork in Senegal, 2017. St Antony's College.
Supervisor: Dr. Dace Dzenovska. Grade: First class A+
- 2016 **BA (Hons) European Studies – Dept. of European Studies and International Studies, King's College London** (One-year exchange at the Humboldt Berlin, 2014).
Thesis: *The Aesthetics of Securitisation and Desecuritisation : Artistic Practices challenging the EU Security Discourse on Migrants around the Mediterranean.*
Supervisor: Dr. Holger Stritzel. Grade: First class A+

POSITIONS

- 2022 **Postdoctoral fellow – Dept. of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo (UiO).**
Epidemic Traces project funded by FRIPRO (NRC): *Epidemic traces. Remains of infectious disease control in Africa, and how they shape future health and landscapes.*
- Project leader of [Atmospheres of Dust: Particles, Pollution and Protests in Senegal](#).
- Member of and PhD co-supervisor in the project *Medical and Environmental Anthropology for East Africa in the 21st-century* (AnthEM) funded by the NORHED programme of the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) with the Universities of Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, Makerere and Maseno University.

FUNDING AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025 Multimodal artistic collaboration, Aslaug Johanne og Johannes Falkenbergs Stiftelse
2025 Environment and Energy Funding for International Collaborations, University of Oslo
2018 AFR Individual PhD grant, awarded by the Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR)
2017 Carr and Stahl Fund, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford
2017 Godfrey Lienhardt Fieldwork Grant, Dept. of Social Anthropology, University of Oxford

AWARDS AND PRIZES

- 2022 Proposed for the H.M. Kongens gullmedalje, Social Sciences Faculty, University of Oslo
2016 Jelf Medal Nomination, King's College London, Faculty of Arts and Humanities

SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo

- **PhD level**
 - *Writing and Method* (2024)
 - *AnthEM Fieldschool: Medical and Environmental Anthropology for East Africa* (seminars & fieldschool, 2022)
- **MA level**
 - *Advanced Anthropological Theory* (2023)
 - *Deep Reading Seminar* (2021)
- **BA level**
 - *Anthropology of Infrastructure* (2023 and 2024)
 - *Regional Ethnography: Africa* (2023)
 - *Medical Anthropology* (2021)

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

- 2022–2024 Basic Competence in University Pedagogy, University of Oslo (200 hours)
Modules completed: Introductory Module, Lecturing and Teaching, Research Supervision, Sustainability Education in My Teaching I & II

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- 2021 – 2024 Convenor of the African Anthropology Seminar (monthly seminar series), SAI, UiO
2021 – 2024 Examiner for BA and MA exams and theses, SAI, UiO
2022 – 2023 Co-convenor of Cinema SAI (biweekly screening of ethnographic films), SAI, UiO
2022 – 2023 Convenor of the Lunch Seminars (monthly seminar), SAI, UiO
2022 – 2023 Temporary Staff Representative, SAI, UiO

TRACK RECORD

Articles published in peer-reviewed journals

- Forthcoming Kopf, Charline and Hakimah Abdul-Fattah. “Archives of Resonance.” *Transforming Anthropology*.
- Forthcoming Kopf, Charline. “Betting on Uncertain Futures: Spectacles of Absurdity and Temporalities of Speculations amongst Railway Workers in Mali” *Social Anthropology* (minor revisions).
- Forthcoming Kopf, Charline. “Rust and Reparation: Memory, Labour, and the Politics of Repair in Senegal’s Railways”, *Cultural Anthropology*.
- 2024 Kopf, Charline, & Phelan, Sarah-Jane. (2024). “The work of being stuck: Caring masculinities in Mali and Burkina Faso”. *Journal of Material Culture*, 29(4), 479-502.

- 2024 Kopf, Charline. (2024). "Anxious Atmospheres: Living in the Shadows of Coal." *Roadsides*. 12. 10.26034/roadsides-202401203.
- 2023 Kopf, Charline. "Performing (In)securities in West Africa: Territorial meshing and local participation in the securitisation of borders." *Anthropologie & développement*, 54, 125–144.
- 2020 Kopf, Charline. "Le TER nous met à terre. Le Sénégal sur les rails de l'émergence?", *Critique Internationale* 4 (89), 115-139.
- 2020 Kopf, Charline. "The dynamics of toxic dust." *Anthropology Today* 36(6), 17-20.
- 2018 Kopf, Charline. "Dakar's Museum of Black Civilisations: Towards a new imaginary of a postcolonial museum?" *Martor: The Museum of the Peasant Anthropology Review* 23, 37-55.

Books

- In preparation Kopf, Charline. *Afterplace: The work of waiting on the Dakar-Bamako line*, University of California Press. Selected as part of the series *Atelier: Ethnographic Inquiry into the 21st Century*. Planned for Autumn 2026.

Edited Volumes and Special Issues

- Forthcoming Alexander, Catherine, Ståle Wig and Charline Kopf. "Making Sense of Absurdity", Special Issue, *Social Anthropology/ Anthropologie Sociale*. Winter 2025.
- In Press Kopf, Charline; Wenzel Geissler; Aïssatou Mbodj-Pouye and Lotte Meinert eds. *Mending and Repairing across Africa*. Intellect, University of Chicago Press. Spring 2026.

Multimodal and web-based output (peer-reviewed)

- 2024 Kopf, Charline. "Of Rails And Rubbish: Critique And The Absurdity Of Cleaning Days." *Allegra Lab*. ISSN 2343-0168.
- 2024 Wig, Ståle; Catherine Alexander and Charline Kopf. "Anthropology and Absurdity: Introduction." *Allegra Lab*. ISSN 2343-0168.
- In preparation Kopf, Charline. "Ruinous rails". Podcast episode for *Material Crimes by Surviving Society* (in collaboration with Queen Mary University of London).

Invited lectures, conferences and workshops (selection)

- 2025 'Fragments of the Ocean: Fishing Nets, Pirogues, and the Coastal Politics of Persistence in Senegal', ASAUK, Birmingham, UK.
- 2024 'Breathless environments: Tracing Dust, Air, and Industrial History in Bargny, Senegal', African Anthropology Seminar, Department of Social Anthropology, UiO.
- 2024 'Atmospheres of contention: particles and protests in coastal Senegal'. *Undoing the Shore: Thinking Geosocial transformation with Sand*. European Association of Social Anthropology (EASA), Barcelona, Spain.

- 2023 'The Speculative Realms of Railway Suspensions: making sense through conspiracies, gambling and improvisations'. NAF Norsk antropologisk forening (NAF), Antropologikonferansen, NTNU, Trondheim.
- 2023 Invited to speak at the *SV 60 år: Forskerstafett "Hvorfor er det jeg forsker på og mitt fag viktig for samfunnsutviklingen og for framtiden"* (på norsk), UiO.
- 2023 "Railways without Borders: towards transnational forms of political belonging", Invited Departmental Seminar and PhD Masterclass on "Studying and Writing Infrastructure", NTNU Trondheim.
- 2022 'States of the Absurd.' Panel convenor and paper, EASA 2022, Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland.
- 2022 'Maintaining railway lives and lines: Working bodies and toxic dust in a Senegalese railway depot.' *Trains & Tracks in Africa — A Dialogue on Infrastructures and Mobilities in Africa*. Europalia Arts Festival, Tervuren Museum, Brussels, Belgium.
- 2021 'Performing (In)securities in West Africa: Territorial meshing and local participation in the securitisation of cross-border circulations' and 'Le Printemps des Routes: Disrupting Circulations on the Dakar-Bamako Corridor'. Association for the Anthropology of Social Change and Development (APAD) conference. University of Lomé, Togo.
- 2021 'Renewal of urban mobility infrastructure in West Africa: Senegal on the rails of emergence?' Invited guest lecture in Urban Anthropology, University of KU Leuven, Belgium.
- 2021 'Preparing for future crises: Temporal possibilities and their materialisations' (panel convenor) and 'Planning for multiple disasters along West African borders: between standardisation and localisation' (paper). Northern European Conference on Emergency and Disaster Studies (NEEDS), Stockholm, Sweden.
- 2020 'Geopoetics of Care and Repair in the Postcolony' (panel convenor) and 'Care and repair in derelict railway landscapes' (paper), Association of African Studies (ASA) (online – Covid).
- 2018 'A tale of an empty museum and the imaginaries contained therein: China's contribution to Dakar's Museum of Black Civilisations'. CA/AC Conference (Chinese in Africa – Africans in China Research Network), Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.
- 2018 'Between physical and ideological mobility: The Role of Transport Infrastructure in Sino-African Relations', co-organisation and convening of the yearly conference, Oxford University China-Africa Network (OUCAN), University of Oxford, UK.

MEMBERSHIP OF ACADEMIES / SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES / NETWORKS

Society for Cultural Anthropology (CULANT)
 European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA)
 Association for the Anthropology of Social Change and Development / Association pour l'anthropologie du changement social et du développement (APAD)
 International Network on Transport Research in Africa (INTRA)
 African Studies Association (ASA)

Languages

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Luxembourgish | speaking: mother tongue; reading/writing: mother tongue |
| French | speaking: mother tongue; reading/writing: mother tongue |
| German | speaking: mother tongue; reading/writing: mother tongue |
| English | speaking: near-native; reading/writing: near-native |
| Spanish | speaking: advanced; reading/writing: advanced |
| Norwegian | speaking: intermediate; reading/writing: intermediate |
| Wolof | speaking: beginner; reading/writing: beginner |
| Russian | speaking: beginner; reading/writing: beginner |