

# Encounters between Arts, Ethnography and Pedagogy

Master's / Graduate Course, 15 ECTS credits

Lesvos, Greece, 31 July–14 August 2022.

Application deadline: 1 May 2022.

Announcement & application form:

<https://www.uia.no/en/studies2/encounters-between-arts-ethnography-and-pedagogy>



Image 1: The course takes place at Metochi study centre in Lesvos, Greece

## Invitation

Would you like to collaboratively explore connections between ethnographic, site-specific, arts-based, and pedagogical practices in a community of researchers, artists and educators, and on-site in Lesvos, Greece? The *Encounters* project and the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Agder (UiA), Norway, invite applications to attend the summer 2022 course *Encounters - Between Arts, Ethnography and Pedagogy*. This is an interdisciplinary master's (graduate) level course, and more details on the course curriculum can be found [here](#).

### *When and where?*

The practical part of the course will take place in the Greek island of Lesvos from 31 July to 14 August 2022. The 'home base' will be the [Metochi Study Centre](#), and we encourage student participants to collaboratively develop projects that may approach different sites, communities or networks from a starting point in the local community of Kalloni.

### *Target groups*

The course invites MA / Graduate level students from visual and performing arts, music, anthropology, sociology, education and related fields. Other applicants who meet the admission requirements (i.e. completed BA) will be considered.

### **What do you learn?**

The course intends to provide students with experience and training in undertaking innovative and critical research that approaches site-specificity from multiple angles, such as site-specific and social art practices, participatory or experimental ethnography, and critical pedagogy.

For further details, please see the course description on UiA's web page [here](#) , as well as the reflections under "Practical information" below.

### *Course description*

The course is held in English, but the instructors may also offer supervision in, respectively, Norwegian, Greek, Spanish, or Italian

Please also see the formal [course description](#).

### *Admission requirements*

Applicants must have completed a bachelor's (undergraduate) degree in a relevant field, such as visual and performing arts, music, anthropology, sociology, education / pedagogy, or related fields.

### **Application Procedure**

We wish to recruit highly motivated and self-driven students for this course, and the number of participants is limited. Applicants are required to include a letter of motivation with their application (see details below).

**Please submit your application by 1 May.** The application has the following steps;

1: Apply through this link:



<https://www.uia.no/en/studies2/encounters-between-arts-ethnography-and-pedagogy>

The 'Apply' button takes you to UiA's formal student enrolment system.

Select language (upper right corner), and then mode of login (Norwegian students use one of the first two options, international students the third: "Login International applicant").

Then select 'Other courses' on the bottom of the course list, and the name of the course:

**8316 Encounters between arts, ethnography and pedagogy**

 <b>Application deadline:</b>	20.04.2022
 <b>Documentation submission deadline:</b>	No deadline

All fields must be filled in if they are not marked with the text optional.

**Application alternatives**

You must select 1 application alternative.

✓ Select from the list

8315 Middelhavsmat og bærekraft

**8316 Encounters between Arts, Ethno. and Ped., deadline 01.05.2022**

requirements and semester:

Extra information (optional):

Image 2: The correct application date is 1 May, even if the header says 20 April.

2: Please upload the required documentation in the application portal:

- A. Documentation of relevant graduate study programme enrolment and/or relevant background (completed BA programme, or documentation that it will be completed this spring).
- B. A letter of motivation (700 words max) outlining some of the ideas and approaches the applicant hopes to explore in their encounters in Lesvos and how these build on applicant's prior artistic, educational or research practice(s)

If you are affiliated with one of the *Encounters* project partners as a student or other, please also describe this connection in your letter. Project partners are: University of Agder (NO), University of the Aegean (GR), University of Amsterdam (NL), Athens international ethnographic film festival – Ethnofest (GR), Raketa (SE), and Arts Cabinet (UK). We invite applicants both with and without such connections.

### Teaching and assessment methods

In Lesvos, students will work in groups and also collaborate with their mentors to develop and carry out their explorative projects. The projects are encouraged to address and collaborate with local sites, institutions, people and narratives of the island, and the course will suggest local contacts as a starting point for the exploratory work.

Before and after the stay in Lesvos, there will be online course activities with presentations, supervision and assignments. Students will also share their evolving collective and individual work and reflections in a closed blog on the project website: <https://encountersproject.eu/>

The exams are planned to place as student presentations/exhibitions during [Athens international ethnographic film festival](#) 22–27 November 2022 (To be confirmed).

See [course description](#) for exam details. Travel support to Athens will be offered. Students who cannot make it to Athens in November will be offered a digital solution to present their work.



*Image 3: Students will present their works during Ethnofest in Athens, November  
(Image: Exhibition "Needle and thread - Spirits" by Israa Issa Mahameed, Athens 2019. Photo: Tormod W. Anundsen)*

## Practical information

### *Economy*

The students will pay a small tuition / semester registration fee to UiA (NoK 685, ca 72 Eur). Teaching, supervision, accommodation and meals on the course site in Lesvos will be provided for free for participating students. A limited support for travel to and from Lesvos may be offered. The students may also need to cover some local transportation costs in Lesvos, and expenses for own choice of artistic materials or documentation, depending on the nature of the projects that evolve.

### *Travel*

Students make their own travel arrangements and arrive in Metochi in the afternoon / evening of Sunday 31 July, and depart Sunday 14 August before noon. The course leaders and Metochi can help organize taxis from / to the airport in Mytilene if requested.

### *Accommodation*

Students and staff will stay at the [Metochi study centre](#), Kalloni. Most students will be accommodated in double rooms. Please see other [practical information](#) on Metochi's website.

### Course dates and timeline

When?	What?	Where?
1 May	Application deadline	Online
10 May	Letters of acceptance to students	By email
16–30 May	First online course module & 1 <sup>st</sup> student assignment	Online
Mid May/early June	1 or 2 live meetings on Zoom	Online – live
31 May–13 June	Second online course module & 2 <sup>nd</sup> student assignment	Online
14–27 June	Third online course module & 3 <sup>rd</sup> student assignment	Online
July	Individual preparations	At home
31 July–14 August	Summer course, joint explorations, practical project development	Kalloni, Lesvos, GR
September / October	Follow-up, supervision of student project development, exam preparations	Online
22 – 27 November	Exhibiting/demonstrating student works/exams	Athens/Online

### More on contents and background

#### Foundation

We imagine the two weeks in Lesvos as a period of fieldwork, encounters with local people, artistic production, mentoring, discussions, lectures and workshops, as the groups of students develop different types of site-related work that demonstrate the potentiality of the combined practices of art, research and pedagogy, while also dealing respectfully with the contexts that one encounters.

From the approach of artistic practice, we are considering Miwon Kwon's (2002) categorisation of what 'site' may represent in site-specific art, from the *phenomenological* (such as places, buildings, landscapes, sounds), to the *social and institutional* (events, places to meet, social practice, performance) and the *discursive* (stories, media events, ideas). Hosting such a course in Lesvos will, we envision, open up for all these dimensions.

In recent years Lesvos has become a major transitional route for refugees coming to Europe and has mainly been represented in the media as linked to the refugee crisis, and is, as such, already saturated in images from the global media. In *Encounters* we aim to develop alternative approaches to representation, participation and outcome of ethnographic research, and to explore how these approaches may enable different ways of (re)presenting others, that is, enter new conversations about the site itself – through the everyday of people, institutions and places.

We encourage student research to be experimental also in terms of output and dissemination, such as producing films, podcasts, soundscapes, performative or artistic works, webpages, public scholarship or social action. We are also interested in how methodological encounters between the practices of art, ethnography and pedagogy can be

used as a vehicle to present complex issues of representation to audiences outside the walls of academia.

### *Instructors*

The instructors in the course will include:

- Panayotis Panopoulos (Anthropology, art, sound and performance, University of the Aegean, Lesvos) <https://www.sah.aegean.gr/en/faculty/panopoulos-panagiotis/>
- Jennie Gubner, University of Arizona, US (ethnomusicology & film ethnography) <https://cfa.arizona.edu/profile/jgubner/>
- Tormod W. Anundsen, University of Agder (Practice-based research methodologies; ethnographic, educational & artistic research) <https://www.uia.no/kk/profil/tormodwa>
- Helene Illeris, University of Agder (Contemporary art, art education, environmental ethnography) <https://www.uia.no/kk/profil/heleneil>

### Partnership

The course is part of the project *Encounters – through arts, ethnography and pedagogy*. This is an Erasmus+ strategic partnership between University of Agder (NO), University of the Aegean (GR), University of Amsterdam (NL), Athens international ethnographic film festival – Ethnofest (GR), Raketa (SE), and Arts Cabinet (UK). See also <https://encountersproject.eu/>



Image 4: In which ways can we interact with Lesvos?