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Rigi Workshop 2023

Infectious diseases as drivers of change: a scientific and historical perspective on past, present, and future

29-31 January 2023 · Rigi Kulm

Join us for a 3-days interdisciplinary workshop on top of the Rigi mountain. A team of experts and students will analyze societal and technological impacts of infectious diseases.

#Rigiworkshop2023



Infectious diseases as drivers of change: a scientific and historical perspective on past, present, and future

Infectious diseases (IDs) have shaped societies throughout the history of humanity. Their impact goes beyond the immediate loss of lives and livelihoods to include major shifts in economy, demographics, labor policy, and social construction. The bubonic plague that swept through Europe several times from the 14th century is one example of many such events. Their destructive nature was followed by profound scientific, technologic and societal changes, thus illustrating the duality of epidemics and pandemics.

The Rigi Workshop 2023 aims to invite the participants on an interdisciplinary journey to explore the significance of IDs and pandemics as drivers of change. Our knowledge of IDs will be projected onto future scenarios where questions concerning biomedical ethics, loss of biodiversity and habitats, human contact limitation and the push towards more digital life experiences, will be critically discussed. The workshop will offer interdisciplinary and synergistic approaches to investigating and analyzing societal and technological impacts of IDs and will feature keynote lectures delivered by leading experts, case studies in teams, and sharing of group and individual work in the form of poster and oral presentations.

Organisers

PROF. DR. CARMEN FASO, SSTMP, University of Bern · DR. LUCIENNE TRITTEN, SSTMP, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute · PROF. DR. HUBERT STEINKE, SSHMN, University of Bern · PROF. DR. FLURIN CONDRAU, SSHMN, University of Zurich · PROF. DR. PILAR JUNIER, SSM, University of Neuchâtel · PROF. DR. PASCAL MÄSER, LS², Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute · CAROLINE REYMOND, SCNAT

Where and when?

The 3-days course takes place in the hotel Rigi-Kulm on top of the Rigi Mountain, one of the most scenic places in Switzerland, from the 29th to 31st of January 2023.

Who can apply?

PhD students and Postdocs from all Swiss institutions of higher education. The workshop is aimed at students from all domain of biology and medical sciences interested in this topic. MSc students' applications might also be considered.

Please contact your doctoral school for the accreditation of ECTS which we estimate at **2 ECTS**.

Programme and Registrations

The preliminary programme is available online at biol.scnat.ch/rigiworkshop23

The registration fee is CHF 150.- and includes housing and meals. Please register online and submit your abstract of research and a short letter of motivation by 30 September 2022. The organising committee will select up to 30 outstanding applicants.

Lecturers

PROF. DR. DANIEL BAUSCH, FIND Geneva · DR. LEANDER DIENER, University of Zurich · PROF. DR. JOHANNES KRAUSE, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary · ANTHROPOLOGY, LEIPZIG · PROF. DR. VERENA SCHÜNEMANN, University of Zurich and University of Vienna · PD DR. KASPAR STAUB, University of Zurich · DR. DANELLE VAN ZYL-HERMANN, University of Basel · DR. FRÉDÉRIC VAGNERON, University of Strasbourg · PROF. DR. JING WANG, ETH Zurich