



International workshop, organised by the University of Basel and
the University of Teacher Education Lucerne, Switzerland

Exploring language in action: A workshop on linguistic ethnographic film

26-27 May 2026

First day: 9 am-5 pm, 7 pm dinner

Second day: 9 am-5 pm

University of Basel

Petersplatz 1, Kollegienhaus, room 035

This workshop offers a unique opportunity to engage with ethnographic filmmaking and to explore language in action. Led by international experts Annelies Kusters (researcher) and Jorn Rijckaert (camera operator and editor), participants will learn how to integrate linguistic ethnographic film into their own research.

On the first day, the workshop focuses on recording practices. Participants will discuss how to plan a film based on preliminary research, consider whether to work with or without a script, and explore the ethical and practical dimensions of filming in the field.

The second day is devoted to editing, guiding participants through the process from recording to analysis and creating a script or film plan. Each session includes hands-on activities – such as conducting and reflecting on short ethnographic interviews, or editing an interview or interaction as a technical, interpretive, ideological, and collaborative practice.

The workshop will be conducted in International Sign (IS) and English.

Content of the workshop

- ▶ From recordings to analysis to script or film plan
- ▶ Connecting interviews and filmed interactions through editing
- ▶ Collaboration between researcher and editor
- ▶ How ethnographic films are different from and connected to written publications
- ▶ Choices around sequencing, voice-over, captions, and visual emphasis
- ▶ The use of films and film clips in language education, in various workshop formats

For whom

Researchers in the fields of sociolinguistics, linguistics, educational linguistics and language education who are interested in filmmaking and would like to apply linguistic ethnographic film in their research and teaching.

Homework in advance

- ▶ Watch [Ishaare](#) and Episode 1 of [This is IS](#)
- ▶ Come with ideas: What do you want to make a film about?

Teaching format

- ▶ Lectures and reflections from two perspectives: Annelies (researcher) and Jorn (camera operator and editor)
- ▶ Clips from the facilitators' earlier work will be used to explain decisions and strategies
- ▶ Two hands-on activities per day

Guest professors

Prof. Dr. Annelies Kusters,
Heriot-Watt University, UK

Jorn Rijckaert, MA
University of Antwerp, Belgium

Registration for students of the University of Basel

[University of Basel](#)



Contact and registration for guests

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i3w
A cooperation between
the University of Basel and
the University of Applied
Sciences and Arts FHNW

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