UNIVERSITY OF BERN

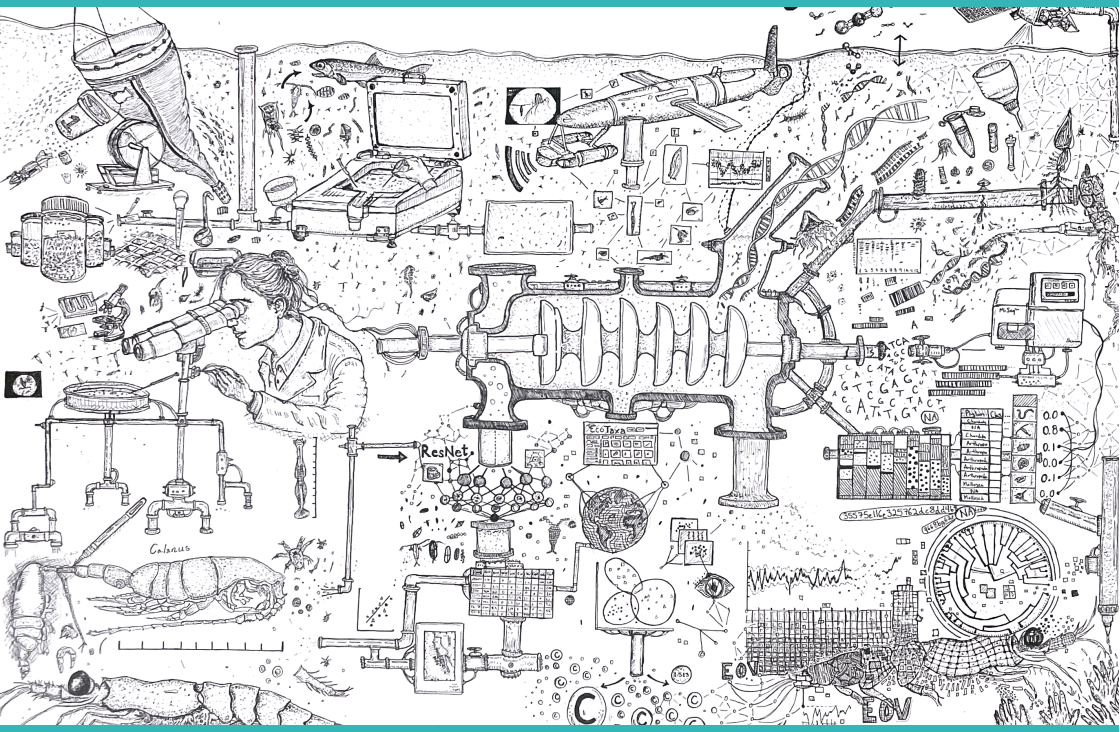
WBKOLLEG
WALTER BENJAMIN KOLLEG

SINTA & ICS | Intensive Methods

Mapping Transmodal Sci-Art Research

10–12 May 2027 | UniS, room tbd.

Prof. Dr. Lisa Cartwright



Dante Capone, Plankton Pump, 2025

Intensive Methods:

Mapping Transmodal Sci-Art Research

with Prof. Lisa Cartwright
a feminist art, technoscience, and visual studies writer and an emeritus professor of visual arts, science studies, and communication at the University of California, San Diego.

Date
10–12 May 2027
10:15–17:00
UniS, room tbd.

ECTS
2 ECTS

Registration
Via KSL or e-mail until
April 18, 2027
hannah.ambuehl@unibe.ch

Target Group
PhD Candidates

Preparation
The course schedule and required reading will be sent after the registration deadline on April 19. **Please plan sufficient time for the required reading and preparation.**

This course explores artistic and research approaches to imaging, sensing, representation, and documentation in environmental and biomedical sciences. Drawing on science and technology studies and art practice research, we examine projects addressing nuclear geopolitics, cancer treatment, and ocean sciences. Through hands-on methods including situational analysis, drawing, and digital twinning, participants will explore how materials, landscapes, and phenomena are sensed, recorded, and represented.

Please note: We highly recommend attending the evening lecture on **Thursday, May 13**, as well as the workshop on **Friday, May 14.**

What Is the Methods Course About?

This course will introduce artworks and writings that model novel approaches to analyzing imaging, sensing, representation, and documentation modalities in the environmental and biomedical sciences. Specific examples will come from art research projects about topics including nuclear geopolitics, cancer treatment, and the ocean sciences. These projects share a concern with analyzing the array of modalities used to sense, to record, and to represent materials, landscapes, phenomena, and experience. We will consider the complex range of modalities used in these fields, drawing on a set of methodologies from science and technology studies and art practice research for interpreting and analyzing transmodal approaches to data imaging, sensing, representation, and documentation. We will consider examples of contemporary art research practice that move beyond the reflexive study of imaging to remote and translational sensing, data acquisition, and documentation, from the traditional forms of len-based, digital, and audio recording to sonification, photogrammetry, laser (LiDAR) mapping, sonography, and thermography. Participants will have a series of opportunities to do hands-on work with analytic and transmodal forms, specifically engaging with situational analysis; drawing as a research tool; and the concept of digital twinning. In these components of the class we will explore a creative reverse-engineering approach to methodologies considered, breaking down the complexity of the transmodal forms typically encountered in the field. Working with the late science studies scholar Bruno Latour's concept of "doing words with things," each participant will produce a series of small works that reverse-engineer a research object of their choosing through three techniques: visual situational analysis (in the spirit of the late sociologist Adele Clarke); drawing things out (in methods drawn from anthropologist Mick Taussig and artist Amy Adler); and digital twinning with a hauntological twist (inspired by artist Lina Selander).

Lisa Cartwright is a feminist art, technoscience, and visual studies writer and an emeritus professor in visual arts, science studies, and communication at the University of California, San Diego, where she directed the art practice PhD and the program in speculative design. A cofounder of the journal Catalyst: feminism, theory, technoscience, her books include Visualizing Oceanography, Practices of Looking, Screening the Body, and Moral Spectatorship. She was principal investigator and lead curator on the Getty Foundation PST "art + science collide" Embodied Pacific research program between 2020 and 2025. Her current research focuses on transmedia ocean imaging and nuclear and wind power geopolitics in the United States.



Photo: Kass McMahon.

SINTA
Studies in the Arts

ICS
Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies

GSAH
Graduate School of the Arts and Humanities

thor.

HKB
Hochschule der Künste Bern
Haute école des arts de Berne
Bern Academy of the Arts