

Dr. Stefan Leins

Senior Lecturer (Oberassistent)

Department of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies, University of Zurich

Address	Andreasstrasse 15, CH-805 Zurich, Switzerland
Phone	+41 (0) 44 635 22 32
E-mail	stefan.leins@uzh.ch
Homepage	www.isek.uzh.ch

Short Bio

I am a senior lecturer at the Department of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies of the University of Zurich and a member of the research program Anthropology of Economy at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). I have taught anthropology at the universities of Zurich, Lucerne, Liechtenstein and NTNU Trondheim. I am interested in the culture of economies and theories of capitalism and work on commodity trading, supply chains, financial analysis, forecasting practices, Islamic finance, socially responsible investing, the history of economic knowledge, and the narrative dimension of finance. My first book *Stories of Capitalism: Inside the Role of Financial Analysts* has been published by the University of Chicago Press in 2018. Since January 2017, I am co-coordinating and conducting research in the project *Valueworks: Effects of Financialization along the Copper Value Chain*, which is funded by the Swiss Network for International Studies (SNIS). In 2017, I won the Mercator Award in the category humanities and social sciences.

Current Positions and Affiliations

Ongoing	University of Zurich: Senior lecturer, Department of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies
Ongoing	University of Basel: Project co-coordinator “Valueworks: Effect of Financialization along the Copper Value Chain,” Department of Anthropology
Ongoing	ETH Zurich and University of Zurich: Associated Member, Center of “History of Knowledge” (ZGW)
Ongoing	London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE): Member of the “Programme on the Anthropology of Economy,” Department of Anthropology

Education

2015	PhD in Social Anthropology, University of Zurich PhD thesis “Cockpits of Capitalism: An Ethnography of Financial Analysis” Supervision: Peter Finke, University of Zurich Ellen Hertz, University of Neuchâtel Laura Bear, LSE (supervision during stay at LSE)
2009	Master of Arts in Social Anthropology, Economic and Social History, Arabic Language and Literature, University of Zurich

Master's thesis "Prozesse und Strukturen des islamischen Finanzmarktes: Eine ethnologische Darstellung von Institutionen, deren Wandel und Wirkungen" (Processes and structures of Islamic finance: an anthropological and institutional study)

Former Positions and Affiliations

08/2016-12/2016	Lecturer, Cross-Faculty Elective Subjects, University of Liechtenstein
01/2016-08/2016	Lecturer, Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology, University of Lucerne
01/2015-08/2015	Visiting Research Student, Department of Anthropology, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
06/2014-08/2015	Research Assistant, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Zurich
09/2012-05/2014	PhD Student, funded by the Forschungskredit, University of Zurich
09/2010-08/2012	Member of the Swiss Bank Academic Research Program (bank name anonymized due to protection of data privacy)
08/2009-07/2010	Research Assistant, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Zurich
02/2010-07/2010	Lecturer, Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology, University of Lucerne

Awards

2017	Winner of the Mercator Award 2017, category "humanities and social sciences"
2013	Shortlisted for the Nachwuchspreis (Young Talent Award) of the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW)

Third Party Funding

04/2018	SNSF Workshop Grant.
03/2018	GRC Short Grant (with Ning Wang & Johann Roduit). Program: Graduate Campus, University of Zurich (competitive).
11/2017	Travel grant. Funding agency: Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences.
10/2017	Publication support grant. Funding agency: Swiss National Science Foundation.
08/2017	Publication support grant. Funding agency: Bevington Fund.
01/2017	24 months project grant (with Rita Kesselring). Funding agency: Swiss Network for International Studies (competitive).
05/2016	GRC Short Grant (with Albert Gleb & Brigitta Bernet). Program: Graduate Campus, University of Zurich (competitive).
09/2012 - 05/2014	24 months research grant. Program: Forschungskredit, Candoc, University of Zurich (competitive). Project number: 56650402.
09/2010 - 08/2012	24 months fieldwork grant. Program: Swiss Bank Academic Research Program (bank name anonymized due to protection of data privacy) (competitive).

➔ **Third party funding in total = 531, 634.00 CHF**

Organization of Conference Workshops and Panels

- 11/2017 Assessing Expectation and Expertise: Approaches to a Collaborative Study of Experts. American Anthropological Association (AAA), Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (with Arthur Mason)
- 11/2016 Studying along Commodity Chains. SEG, Annual Conference of the Swiss Anthropological Society (with Rita Kesselring)
- 11/2015 Good Lives, Bad Lives: Changing Livelihoods Between Security and Precarization. SEG, Annual Conference of the Swiss Anthropological Society (with Peter Finke and Chris Kelley)
- 03/2015 Das Wissen der Finanzmärkte (Knowledge in Financial Markets). Center “History of Knowledge,” ETH Zurich and University of Zurich (with Kijan Espahangizi and Moritz Mähr)

Invited Talks and Conference Presentations

- 11/2017 “Assessing Financial Market Knowledge: reflections on studying experts,” American Anthropological Association (AAA), Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (with Arthur Mason)
- 10/2017 “The Work of Commodity Traders: Anthropological Perspectives on Supply Chain Logistics and Trade,” Centre for International Environmental Studies (CIES), The Graduate Institute, Geneva
- 05/2017 “Die Zukunft des Marktes: Finanzanalyse als kulturelle Praxis” (The Future of the Market: Financial analysis as a cultural practice), Colloquium of the Department of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies, University of Zurich
- 04/2017 “Performative Märkte? Ökonomisches Wissen, ökonomische Praxis und die Rolle ethnographischer Forschung in Finanzmärkten” (Performative Markets? Economic knowledge, economic practice, and the role of ethnographic research in financial markets), Colloquium of the Department of Sociology, University of Lucerne
- 01/2017 “Making Sense of the Market: Valuation Practices, Anticipatory Knowledge, and Narrative Skills among Financial Analysts,” Colloquium of the Institute of Ethnology, University of Münster
- 07/2016 “Reading the Market: Valuation Practices, Anticipatory Knowledge, and Storytelling among Financial Analysts,” European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) biennial conference, University of Milano Bocca
- 04/2016 “Autonomy and Heteronomy in the Work of Financial Analysts,” Workshop “The Ambivalence of Labor,” University of Freiburg, Germany
- 05/2015 “From speculation to investment: the work of financial analysts,” Workshop “Speculation,” London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
- 03/2015 “Performative Ökonomik oder epistemische Kulturen: Woher kommt das Wissen des Finanzmarktes?” (Performative Economics or Epistemic Cultures: Where does financial market knowledge come from?), Center “History of Knowledge,” ETH Zurich and University of Zurich
- 12/2014 “Establishing authority in contemporary capitalism: the case of financial analysts,” Atelier du Laboratoire d’Anthropologie Culturelle et Sociale, University of Lausanne

- 10/2014 “Invest in socially responsible land mine producers! The use and misuse of Corporate Social Responsibility in current capitalism,” Panel “Transnational corporations, large-scale capitalist projects and local transformations,” SEG Conference, University of Basel
- 07/2014 “Performativität und ihre Grenzen: Das Verhältnis zwischen ökonomischem Wissen und ökonomischer Praxis am Beispiel der Finanzanalyse” (Performativity and its Limit: the relationship between economic knowledge and economic practice in the case of financial analysis), Workshop “Zur Soziologie ökonomischen Wissens” (The sociology of economic knowledge), University of Jena
- 04/2014 “Playing the market, playing the clients: what is integrity in terms of financial market forecasts?” Workshop “Negotiating Integrity: Playing by the book, rewriting the rules, fiddling and cheating,” Goldsmiths, University of London
- 11/2013 “Establishing authority in contemporary capitalism: the case of financial analysts,” Research colloquium of the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Lucerne
- 07/2013 “Establishing market authority: the construction of stock market forecasts among financial analysts,” Critical Management Studies (CMS) biennial conference, University of Manchester
- 05/2013 “Performing Expertise: The Production of Stock Market Forecasts Among Financial Analysts,” Workshop “Economic Sociology and Sociology of Economic Thought: Lessons from the Ongoing Crisis,” University of Jena
- 12/2012 “Betting on the future: the construction of stock market forecasts among financial analysts,” Colloquium of the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Zurich
- 07/2011 “In the lion's den? The challenges of doing fieldwork in a financial institution,” European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) biennial conference, University of Nanterre, Paris
- 12/2010 “Die kulturellen Dimensionen des Islamic Finance” (the cultural dimensions of Islamic finance), Degree Program “Cross-Cultural Leadership,” University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland, King Faysal Foundation, Basel
- 12/2009 “The Islamic financial market: regulations, practices, dangers,” American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (AICSG) and the Johns Hopkins University, Potsdam

Teaching

- 08/2017 - 12/2017 Introductory Course “Grundlagenkurs” (Introduction to academic working in social anthropology) University of Zurich
- 02/2017 - 07/2017 Seminar “Thesis writing for master students,” University of Zurich
- 02/2017 - 07/2017 Introductory Course “Methods in Anthropology,” University of Zurich
- 10/2016 - 01/2017 PhD course “The Post Discursive Turn: Assembling, Mobilizing & Performing” NTNU Trondheim, Norway (with Arthur Mason)
- 08/2016 - 12/2016 Seminar “Anthropological Approaches to the World of Finance,” Cross-Faculty Elective Subjects, University of Liechtenstein

- 08/2016 - 12/2016 Seminar “Kapitalismus: Aktuelle Konzepte und ethnographische Herangehensweisen,” (Capitalism: current concepts and ethnographic approaches), University of Zurich
- 08/2016 - 12/2016 Seminar “Masterseminar Theorien” (Theories and concepts), University of Zurich (with Dominik Müller)
- 02/2016 -07/2016 Proseminar “Instrumentalisierte Ethnologie? Anthropologisches Wissen abseits der Wissenschaft” (Instrumentalized Anthropology? Anthropological Knowledge beyond Academia) University of Lucerne
- 08/2015-12/2015 Introductory Course “Monographien” (Introduction to academic working in social anthropology) University of Zurich
- 08/2015-12/2015 Seminar “Masterseminar Theorien” (Theories and concepts), University of Zurich (with Peter Finke)
- 08/2014-12/2014 Introductory Course “Grundlagenkurs” (Introduction to academic working in social anthropology) University of Zurich
- 08/2014-12/2014 Seminar “Transformationen: Aktuelle politökonomische Verschiebungen und ihr Einfluss auf lokale Lebenswelten” (Transformations: current political and economic shifts and their impact on local living environments), University of Zurich (with Peter Finke)
- 08/2013-12/2013 Lecture “Kernbereich II: Ökologie und Wirtschaft” (Ecology and Economy), University of Zurich (with Dominik Müller)
- 08/2013-12/2013 Seminar “Masterseminar Theorien” (Theories and concepts), University of Zurich (with Dominik Müller)
- 01/2013-07/2013 Exercise group “Einführung in die Ethnologie II” (Introduction to Anthropology), University of Zurich
- 01/2010-07/2010 Seminar “Anthropology of Finance: Der Finanzmarkt aus ethnologischer Sicht” (Anthropology of Finance), University of Zurich
- 01/2010-07/2010 Proseminar “Anthropology of Finance: Der Finanzmarkt aus ethnologischer Sicht” (Anthropology of Finance), University of Lucerne
- 08/2009-12/2009 Seminar “Masterseminar Theorien” (Theories and concepts), University of Zurich (with Peter Finke)

Supervision of BA- and MA-Theses

- 2017 Tabea Grob, “Sharing Economy: Zwischen Ökonomisierung der Gesellschaft und Sozialisierung der Wirtschaft,” BA-Thesis, University of Zurich (first supervisor)
- 2017 Fatima Moumouni, “Die Auswirkungen von Rassismus: Drei Lebensläufe um den Begriff Activist Burnout,” BA-Thesis, University of Zurich (first supervisor)
- 2016 Victoria Siegl, “Integrationsarbeit leisten: Zentrale Themenbereiche, integrative Strategien und anzutreffende Schwierigkeiten im Verlauf der Intergration und des Erwachsenwerdens unbegleiteter minderjähriger Asylsuchender,” BA-Thesis, University of Zurich (first supervisor)
- 2016 Deborah Cohen, “Revolutionizing Psychiatry: Communication and Technology as Practices to Attain Scientific Consent,” BA-Thesis, University of Zurich (first supervisor)

→ Awarded with the Semester Prize 2016 of the University of Zurich

- 2016 Josefina Remedios Luque Jimenez, “We are not beggars. We do not wish charity. We want justice: Die Forderung nach Reparationen in der Karibik und die Entstehung der Narrative im öffentlichen Diskurs,” BA-Thesis, University of Zurich (first supervisor)
- 2015 Lynn Huber, “Challenging Volunteering in Rural South India: How Help is Linked to Liberalism and White Privilege,” BA-Thesis, University of Zurich (first supervisor)
- 2015 Flurina Peyer, “‘In the end, we are dealing with people, real human beings...’ An Ethnographic Case Study of Professionalized Care in Switzerland,” BA-Thesis, University of Zurich (first supervisor)
- 2014 Annuska Wassmann, “Problematik der Nachhaltigen Entwicklung in der Lehre an der Universität Zürich und der ETH Zürich – Eine qualitative Analyse,” BA-Thesis, University of Zurich (first supervisor)

→ Awarded with the Semester Prize 2014 of the University of Zurich

- 2014 Schirin Razavi, “Wie Corporate Social Responsibility ‘mathematisch’ gewichtet wird. Ein sozialwissenschaftliche Untersuchung zu Konstruktion und Wandel unternehmerischer Verantwortung am Beispiel eines Schweizer Finanzinstituts,” MA-Thesis, University of Zurich (co-supervision with Peter Finke)
- 2014 Christina Haefliger, “Soziale Transformationsprozesse in den Vereinigten Arabisch Emiraten am Beispiel der Akzeptanz von erwerbstätigkeiten emiratischer Frauen,” MA-Thesis, University of Zurich (co-supervision with Peter Finke)
- 2012 Franziska Vogel “Islamic Finance zwischen Marketingstrategien und der Erfüllung ihres religiös-normativem Anspruches,” MA-Thesis, University of Basel (co-supervision with Peter Seele)
- 2012 Sarah Slan “Arabisch-Jüdische Paare in Israel. Auswirkungen des Politischen Systems,” MA-Thesis, University of Zurich (co-supervision with Elham Manea)
- 2011 Sarah Disch “Islamic family law in the courts: experiences from the Muslim World and the West The application of Islamic legal norms in German family courts and non- governmental structures,” MA-Thesis, University of Zurich (co-supervision with Peter Finke)
- 2010 Valerie Mansour, “Zivilehe im Libanon: Eine Untersuchung zu den Motiven von Menschen im Libanon zivil zu heiraten,” MA-Thesis, University of Zurich (co-supervision with Peter Finke)

Public Lectures and Exhibitions

- 03/2017 Public Lecture “Banker – Ein Stimmungsbild” (Bankers – a reflection), Haus Guttenberg, Liechtenstein
- 07/2016 Installation “Hands of the Market” at the exhibition “Transactions,” a parallel event of MANIFESTA 2016 (with Pause ohne Ende)
- 04/2016 Public Lecture “Inside Paradeplatz: Banker, wer bist du?” (Inside Paradeplatz: Banker, who are you?), organized by the Museum Lenzburg, Zurich Paradeplatz (second event)

- 03/2016 Public Lecture “Islam in der Ökonomie – Ökonomie im Islam: Neue Perspektive auf Islam und Moderne” (Islam and the Economy: New Perspectives on Islam and Modernity), organized by “Zeitzeugen,” Kantonsschule Aarau (with Dominik Müller)
- 02/2016 Public Lecture “Inside Paradeplatz: Banker, wer bist du?” (Inside Paradeplatz: Banker, who are you?), organized by the Museum Lenzburg, Zurich Paradeplatz (first event)
- 11/2011 Installation “Investir dans l'Apocalypse!” (Investing in the Apocalypse!) at the exhibition “What are You Doing After the Apocalypse,” Musée d'Ethnographie de Neuchâtel (with Ellen Hertz)

Media Appearances

- 12/2017 “Schafft der Finanzplatz den Aufbruch?” ECO Talk, SRF 1, 18 December 2017 (Invited guest at TV talk show on the future of Swiss banking)
- 11/2017 “Stefan Leins,” Who is Who in Zürich: Die 200 prominentesten Persönlichkeiten 2018, 30 November 2017 (Portrait about my person)
- 10/2017 “Gut bezahlte Geschichtenerzähler,” Sonntagszeitung, 1 October 2017 (Portrait of my research on financial analysts)
- 09/2017 “Angst um Islamic Banking in London,” NZZ, 21 September 2017 (Expert quotes on Islamic finance)
- 04/2017 “Mercator Awards 2017: Erdbeeren und das liebe Geld,” UZH News, 13 April 2017 (Article on Mercator awardees 2017)
- 07/2016 “Viele Banker suchen das alternative Leben. Reden wir über Geld mit Stefan Leins,” Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1 July 2016 (Interview on the anthropology of bankers)
- 07/2016 “Der Bankerversteher,” Sonntagsblick, 31 July 2016 (Portrait of my research on financial analysts)
- 07/2016 “Finanzanalytiker im Dilemma,” UZH News, 6 July 2016 (Portrait of my research on financial analysts)
- 04/2016 “Niemand hat den Überblick,” Weser Kurier: Die Wirtschaft, 2, 2016 (Newspaper interview on the anthropology of banking)
- 02/2016 “Ethnologe unter Bankern: ‘Alle sind Teil des Spiels,’” Echo der Zeit, SRF 1, 12 February 2016 (Radio interview on doing fieldwork among bankers)
- 02/2016 “Du nennst mich Banker? Beleidigung!” NZZ, 1 February 2016 (Extended portrait about my doctoral project)
- 12/2015 “Der Boom des Islamic Banking ist vorbei,” Blick, 23 December 2015 (Expert quotes on Islamic finance)
- 06/2015 “Islamic Banking: Ein Zeichen der Kultur,” Kontext, Schweizer Radio SRF 2 (Radio Interview on Islamic finance)
- 10/2014 “Banking nach Allahs Regeln,” 10vor10, Schweizer Fernsehen SRF (TV Interview on Islamic finance)

- 10/2014 “Besser verteilte Risiken dank islamischem Banking?” Echo der Zeit, Schweizer Radio SRF (Radio interview on Islamic finance)
- 05/2014 “Islamic Banking: Muttersprache statt eigener Produkte,” Banken+Partner, 2/2014: 24-26 (Expert quotes on Islamic finance)
- 04/2014 “Unter Bankern,” Zeit Campus, 03/2014: 53-54 (Interview about my fieldwork among Swiss bankers)
- 03/2014 “Vom Mann im Hintergrund zum unmoralischen Kriminellen – So einfach?” Wir Kaufleute, 3/2014: 4-7 (Interview on bankers as anthropological subjects)
- 03/2014 “Islamic Banking,” NZZ Folio, March 2014, No. 272: 42-47 (Expert quotes on Islamic finance)
- 11/2013 “Der Stamm der Banker,” Das Magazin, 48/2013: 24-37 (Report about the current state of anthropology and my fieldwork)
- 04/2013 “Weshalb Islamic Banking kein Goldesel wurde,” Tages Anzeiger Online, 5 April 2013 (Expert quotes on Islamic finance)
- 01/2010 “Milliarden fließen zu Banken mit Scharia-Garantie,” Tages-Anzeiger Online, 8 January 2010 (Report about the results of my MA thesis)

Academic Service and Honorary Activities

- Since 05/2013 Member of the steering committee of VAUZ (Association of the Non-Professorial Academic Staff of the University of Zurich)
- Tasks include:
- UZH Senate: Representative of the non-professorial academic staff of the University of Zurich
 - UZH Ethics Commission: Representative of the non-professorial academic staff of the University of Zurich
- 08/2015 - 07/2016 Deputy to the Operative Manager, Department of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies, University of Zurich
- Tasks included:
- Strategic planning in cooperation with the professorial staff
 - Managing and reporting of department activities
 - Budget planning in cooperation with the professorial staff
 - Human resources management
- 08/2014 - 07/2015 Member of the appointment committee for the selection of an assistant professor (tenure track) in Indology, University of Zurich

Memberships

American Anthropological Association (AAA)
 European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA)
 Swiss Anthropological Association (SEG/SSE)

For a list of publications, please visit:

<http://www.isek.uzh.ch/en/anthropology/Staff/staff/stefanleins/publikationenstefanleins.html>