

KATHARINA GRAF

Goethe University Frankfurt
 Institute of Cultural Anthropology and European Ethnology
 Norbert-Wollheim-Platz 1
 60629 Frankfurt am Main, Germany
https://www.uni-frankfurt.de/105404614/Dr__Katharina_Graf

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Anthropology and Sociology, SOAS University of London, December 2016

Thesis: 'Food in the Making: Food Preparation, Material and Social Change in Urban Morocco'

M.A. Social Anthropology, SOAS University of London, December 2011

Diplom Geography, Bonn University, November 2009

POSITIONS

Research Fellow (Principal Investigator), Goethe University Frankfurt	2025-
Visiting Scholar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Anthropology (2 months)	2022
Research Fellow (Principal Investigator), Goethe University Frankfurt	2021-2024
Honorary Research Fellow, University of Exeter	2020-2026
Research Associate, SOAS Food Studies Centre	2019-2027
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, SOAS University of London	2016-2020

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Anthropology of Food; Anthropology of the Body; Gender and Family Studies; Political Anthropology; Inequality and Poverty; Citizenship; Science and Technology Studies; Digital Anthropology; Urban Space; Time and Temporality; Resource Management; Food Security; Ethnographic Methods.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

'Digital Disconnections: Food, Poverty and Digital Inequality in Germany', DFG (German Research Foundation), Individual Research Grant, ethnographic fieldwork in Germany, 08/2025-07/2028

'Digital Foodscapes: Past – Present – Future', VolkswagenStiftung, Scoping Workshop, lead applicant, in collaboration with J. Allgaier, T. Bartelmeß, L. König and T. Schneider, 02/2025

'Cyborg Cook: Domestic Cooking in the Digital Age', DFG, Individual Research Grant, ethnographic fieldwork in Germany, 02/2021-02/2024

'The Price of Bread as a Measure of Urban Stability', AXA Research Fund, Individual Research Grant, ethnographic fieldwork in Morocco, 12/2016-01/2020

'Food in the Making: Material and Social Change in Urban Morocco', Klaus Murmann Doctoral Fellowship, Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft, ethnographic fieldwork in Morocco, 10/2011-11/2016

'Drinking Water Management in the Middle Drâa Valley, South Morocco', GLOWA IMPETUS Verbundprojekt, Universities of Cologne and Bonn, student assistant, hydrological and ethnographic fieldwork in Morocco, 11/2008-06/2009

'Sustainable Use of Natural Resources for Food Security (SUN) Project', University of Bonn and GTZ GmbH Addis Abeba, student volunteer, participatory rural appraisal in Ethiopia, 10/2008

ACADEMIC DISTINCTIONS

‘Associate Fellow’, Johanna Quandt Young Academy, Goethe University Frankfurt, since 11/2024
 ‘Junior-Professur für Global Nutrition and Health’, listed 2nd in appointment process, Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition and Health, University of Bayreuth, 08/2021
 Sutasoma Award in recognition of the potentially outstanding merit of PhD research, The Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI), 2016
 Bloomsbury and University College London Doctoral Training Centre Funding Scheme for innovative doctoral training activities, with G. Baldinelli, Z. Boni, A. Cohen and H. Roberson, Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), 2015
 Additional Award for Fieldwork, SOAS University of London, 2012
 Scholarship for Graduates Abroad, DAAD, 10/2010-9/2011

INVITED TALKS

‘Cyborg Cooks: Digitalizing Domestic Cooking in Germany’, Food and Physical Space in Digital Times, workshop, University of Oxford (virtual), 05/2025
 ‘Von der Kochkiste zum Thermomix: Häuslicher Alltag und Zeitlichkeit im Wandel’, European Ethnology research colloquium, Würzburg University, 01/2025
 ‘Sensing in the Smart Kitchen: Studying Cyborg Cooks’, Machine-Body-Space, workshop, University of Siegen, 11/2024
 ‘The Political Economy of Cooking and Care’, Food, Inequality and Care in Times of Crisis, workshop, University of Bergen, 09/2024
 ‘AI and Robot Cooks in Domestic Kitchens’, AI Kitchens and Robot Cooks: Ethical and Social Impacts, workshop, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, 05/2024
 ‘Cyborg Cook: Häusliche Nahrungszubereitung im digitalen Zeitalter’, Leonardo lecture series, RWTH Aachen, 05/2024
 ‘Participant Perception in the Smart Kitchen’, Oxford Internet Institute, 02/2024
 ‘Cyborg Cooks: Digitalising Domestic Cooking in Germany’, University of Exeter, 01/2024
 ‘Cyborgs in der Küche: Ethnografische Erkenntnisse auf der Smart Kitchen’, University of Freiburg, 12/2023
 ‘Care in Crisis? Anthropological Perspectives on the Past and Present’, Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts, keynote speaker at The Artist’s Body 7 symposium, 11/2023
 ‘Verbundenheit und digitale Teilhabe in alltäglichen Ernährungspraktiken’, FAU Nürnberg-Erlangen, 11/2023
 ‘Cyborg Cooks: Making Futures in the Kitchen’, University of Hamburg, 01/2023
 ‘Taste Knowledge and the Temporality of Cooking’, University of Hamburg, 06/2022
 ‘Beldi Foodways: Good Food for the Family’, Brunel University, 10/2021
 ‘Cereal Citizens: Kneading Rural Belonging in the Politicised City’, University of Exeter, 01/2020
 ‘Cereal Citizens: Breadmaking as Civic Practice’, Leiden University, 11/2019
 ‘Embodying Uncertainty: Food (In)Security in Urbanising Morocco’, SOAS, 11/2019
 ‘Cooking without Others? Continuity and Change in Urban Moroccan Food Preparation’, Goethe University Frankfurt, 05/2019

TEACHING

‘Anthropology of Food and Cooking’, Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas (Lithuania), 09-12/2025
 ‘Food, Culture and Politics’, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), guest teacher, 10/2022

‘Ernährung, Körper und Gesellschaft’, BA Kulturanthropologie und Europäische Ethnologie, Goethe University Frankfurt, 04-09/2021

‘Food and Technology’, MA Science and Technology Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt, 10/2020-03/2021

‘Anthropology of Food’, MA Anthropology of Food, SOAS University of London, 10/2017-09/2018

‘Introduction to Social Anthropology’, BA Social Anthropology, SOAS University of London, 01-04/2014 and 01-04/2016

SUPERVISION & MENTORSHIP

Dissertation supervisor, BA and MA programmes, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and European Ethnology, Goethe University Frankfurt, since 03/2022

Dissertation supervisor, BA and MA programmes, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, SOAS University of London, 06/2016-09/2018

Academic Professionalisation ‘How to write grant proposals’, graduate and doctoral student training, Goethe University Frankfurt & SOAS University of London, since 2017

Co-organiser, Annual SOAS Food Studies Centre Postgraduate Research Workshop, 2 days incl. professionalisation workshop and ‘Action Learning’ session, 2014, 2015 and 2017

OUTREACH (SELECTION)

Blog posts, interviews and podcasts

‘Digitalisierte Ernährung: Ethnografische Erkenntnisse aus smarten Küchen’, blog contribution, Highways to Health, 11/2023, <https://highways2health.de/blog/digitalisierte-ernaehrung.html>?

‘The Future of Bread Subsidies’, interview with Akhbar Alyoum [Arabic language daily national newspaper, Morocco], published in print, 05/2018

‘How to Assess Political Stability? Follow the Bread Path’, blog contribution, The Conversation, 10/2018, <https://theconversation.com/how-to-assess-political-stability-follow-the-bread-path-93695>

‘Food and the Construction of Value’, podcast in the 5-episode series ‘What is Good Food?’ 01/2018, <https://soundcloud.com/whatisgoodfood/ep5foodandtheconstructionofvalue>

Talks and activities

‘In und mit Haushalten zu digitaler Sicherheit forschen: Potentiale der Ethnografie’, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (BSI), invited guest speaker at Digitaler Verbraucherschutz open (virtual), with D. Eckhardt and L. Schmitz, 12/2023

‘Cyborg Cooks in Frankfurt Kitchens’, organiser of two public performances to communicate research results, in collaboration with ernst-may-gesellschaft e.V. and Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts, mayhaus Frankfurt, 11/2023

‘Cyborgs in der Küche: Digitale Vernetzung und häusliche Ernährungspraktiken’, Bundeszentrum für Ernährung and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ernährung, invited guest speaker at the 6th BZfE Forum, practitioner’s workshop, Bonn, 09/2022

‘Du bist, was du isst? Lebensmittel und Ernährung aus kulturanthropologischer Perspektive’, Tag der Geisteswissenschaften, with L. McAdam-Otto, Goethe University Frankfurt, 07/2022

‘Secret Kitchen: A Moroccan Feast’, supper club with anthropological commentary, in collaboration with Culinary Anthropologist, London, 05/2014 and 10/2016

LANGUAGES

German (native), English and French (proficient), Arabic, Italian and Spanish (conversational)

ACADEMIC SERVICE (SELECTION)

Co-convenor, online seminar series 'Digital Foodscapes', in collaboration with J. Allgaier, T. Bartelmeß, L. König and T. Schneider, hosted by Unit for Biocultural Variation and Obesity (UBVO) at University of Oxford, 10-12/2025

Host and Co-convenor, inaugural meeting of the Smart Home Network 'Ethnografie und Sozialforschung in und mit Smart Homes', Goethe University Frankfurt, 10/2023

Co-organiser, 'Beyond Terroir' book project, in collaboration with SOAS Food Studies Centre, virtual workshop 12/2022, writing retreat in Istria 05/2023

Reviewer, College of Expert Reviewers, European Science Foundation (ESF), since 2017

Associate Book Reviews Editor, Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition (SAFN) Online Blog, American Anthropological Association (AAA), since 2017

Co-convenor, Anthropology of Food Network (EASA), 01/2017-12/2018

Peer reviewer: Anthropology of Consciousness; Agriculture and Human Values; Berliner Journal für Soziologie; Economic Anthropology; Food, Culture and Society; Gastronomica; Science and Technology Studies

PUBLICATIONSBooks

2025. *Food Beyond Terroir: Tasting Place and Placing Taste in Global Perspective*, co-edited with A. Colquhoun. New York: Berghahn. Open Access: <https://www.berghahnbooks.com/title/ColquhounFood>

2024a. *Food and Families in the Making: Knowledge Reproduction and Political Economy of Cooking in Morocco*. New York: Berghahn. Open Access (introduction, chapter 2): <https://www.berghahnbooks.com/title/GrafFood>

Refereed articles

[under review] Site/ing Smart Homes: Control and Care in Everyday Life, co-authored with D. Eckhardt. *Housing, Theory and Society*.

[manuscript] Participant Perception: Sensory Approaches to the Study of Everyday Digital Practices. *New Media and Society*.

2025a. Cooking and Technology. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Food Studies*. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780197762530.013.178>

2024b. Cooking with(out) Others? Changing Kitchen Technologies and Family Values in Marrakech. *J of North African Studies* 29(4): 575-600. Open Access: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13629387.2022.2056448>

2023. Cyborg Cooks: Mothers and the Anthropology of Smart Kitchens. *Digital Culture and Society* 23(1): 49-70. <https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.14361/dcs-2023-0104/html>

2022. Taste Knowledge: Couscous and the Cook's Six Senses, *J of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 28(2): 577-594. Open Access: <https://rai.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/1467-9655.13708>

2020. Introduction: From Nature to Culture? Claude Lévi-Strauss' Legacy and the Study of Contemporary Foodways, co-authored with E. Mescoli. *Food, Culture and Society* 23(4): 465-

471. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15528014.2020.1773692>
- 2019a. The Price of Homemade Bread, *Gastronomica* 19(1): 107-108.
<https://online.ucpress.edu/gastronomica/article-abstract/19/1/107/2007/The-Price-of-Homemade-Bread?redirectedFrom=fulltext>
- 2019b. Re-examining the Contested Good: Proceedings from a Postgraduate Workshop on Good Food, co-authored with A. Cohen, B. Simpson-Miller and F. Vaghi. *Gastronomica* 19(1): 91-93.
<https://online.ucpress.edu/gastronomica/article-abstract/19/1/91/2020/Re-examining-the-Contested-Good-Proceedings-from-a?redirectedFrom=fulltext>
2018. Cereal Citizens: Crafting Bread and Belonging in Urbanising Morocco, *Paideuma: Mitteilungen zur Kulturkunde* 64: 244-277. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26589141>

Book chapters

2025. Introduction, with A. Colquhoun and H.G. West. In *Food Beyond Terroir: Tasting Place and Placing Taste in Global Perspective*, ed. A. Colquhoun and K. Graf. New York: Berghahn, pp. 1-26. Open Access: see *Books*
- 2025b. Domestic Cooks' Work toward Moroccan *Beldi* Foods in Uncertain Times. In *Food Beyond Terroir: Tasting Place and Placing Taste in Global Perspective*, ed. A. Colquhoun and K. Graf. New York: Berghahn, pp. 173-188. Open Access: see *Books*
2015. Beldi Matters: Negotiating Proper Food in Urban Moroccan Food Consumption and Preparation. In *Halal Matters: Islam, Politics and Markets in Global Perspective*, F. Bergeaud-Blackler, J. Fischer and J. Lever (eds). London: Routledge, pp. 72-90.
<https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9781315746128-5/beldi-matters-negotiating-proper-food-urban-moroccan-food-consumption-preparation-katharina-graf>

Book reviews

2023. 'States of Subsistence: The Politics of Bread in Contemporary Jordan' by José Ciro Martinez, *Gastronomica* Vol. 23(3).
2018. 'Making Modern Meals: How Americans Cook Today' by Amy B. Trubek, SAFN Blog, 22nd October. <https://foodanthro.com/2018/10/22/review-making-modern-meals/>
2016. 'Nurturing Masculinities: Men, Food and Family in Contemporary Egypt' by Nefissa Naguib, SAFN Blog, 28th September. <https://foodanthro.com/2016/09/28/review-and-interview-nurturing-masculinities/>
2015. 'Secrets from the Greek Kitchen: Cooking, Skill and Everyday Life on an Aegean Island' by David E. Sutton, *Gastronomica* Vol. 15(4): 97-98.

Other

2025. Digital Foodscapes: Past – Present – Future. Position paper (preprint). Co-authored with Allgaier, J.; Bartelmeß, T.; M. Cardel; Decorte, P.; Evans, R.; Feldman, Z.; Fernandez, M.; Forno, F.; Grosplik, R.; Han, D.I.D.; Huey, S.L.; König, L.M.; Leer, J.; Lewis, T.; Munk, A.K.; Onorati, M.G.; Parasecoli, F.; Partridge, S.R.; Podszun, M.C.; Rüdiger, S.; Schneider, T.; Sproesser, G.; Wirsam, J.; Zoet, M. https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/pzmu5_v1
2017. Hausgemacht! Die anhaltende Bedeutung häuslicher Nahrungszubereitung, In 'Ausgekocht?!', museum catalogue, Frauen in der Einen Welt, pp. 128-132.
2010. Drinking Water Supply in the Middle Drâa Valley, South Morocco: Options for Action in the Context of Water Scarcity and Institutional Constraints. *Kölner Ethnologische Beiträge* 34. Open Access: <https://kups.ub.uni-koeln.de/4171/>