

Academic Curriculum Vitae

Education since leaving school

- PhD, Department of Sociology, Innsbruck University
- Dissertation: Processes of social networking by migrants from Pakistan and Germany in South Tyrol – beyond a cultural essentialist view on integration

The dissertation deals with integration processes in the autonomous region of South Tyrol in North Italy. Following Bourdieu, integration processes are worked out by a theory of practice, focusing particularly on social network building in the social space. The work contains a qualitative study that includes biographical interviews with female and male migrants from Pakistan and Germany as striking examples, considering their migration experience by entering into new social fields and their everyday life. The argumentation line goes along the focus on social network building as crucial in integration processes and its interconnections with other aspects of accumulating and transforming economic and cultural capital. The work aims to examine the mechanisms, which are going on in the society by a theory of practice, including immigrant's habitus dispositions as an engine for strategies of social networking and their positioning in the society. The argumentation is linked to concrete practice of network building over a long-term period related to gender issues, in contrast to an essentialist cultural view on integration, forced by public discourse, political debates and research studies, which emphasize cultural differences in referring to women from Muslim origin countries and where Pakistani women are regarded as the "upholders of the culture" in playing their major role in transmission and appreciation of the cultural values of their origin country.

- Methods: Biographical interviews with female and male migrants from Pakistan and Germany in South Tyrol
 - Interview analysis: Coding procedure according to grounded theory, implementing Bourdieu's Theory of practice with his analytical tools capital, habitus and field
 - Computer-assisted analysis with MAXQDA
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- 2012 Magistra der Philosophie, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Vienna University
 - Diploma thesis: Transnational religious networks of Roma and Sinti in France and Austria. A socio-anthropological research on the pilgrimages to Saintes Maries de la Mer and Mariazell
 - Research focus: Globalization, transnational studies, minorities, anthropology of religion
 - Methods: Participant observation, qualitative interviews, expert interviews; interview analysis according to the coding procedure of grounded theory (thematic coding)

Latest appointment

- Research assistant Università degli Studi di Trento, Department of Sociology and social research - Project TRACES - **TR**Ansgenerational **Cons**Equences of **Sex**ual violence
 - TRACES is a feminist participatory action research (FPAR). The methodological approach is based on mixed-methods with an ethical framework. The theoretical background consists of feminist theory (situated intersectionality) and Bourdieu's theory of practice.

Professional experience

Research and public relation

From / to	Job title	Name of academic Institution	Academic level	responsibilities
12.2023-01.2026	Assistant researcher	Unviersità degli Studi di Trento	Master	Literature research, qualitative data analysis, secondary data analysis, expert interviews, publications; elaboration of the exhibition
10.2023	Freelance researcher	Unviersità degli Studi di Trento	Master	Literature research
09.2018-12.2020	Freelance researcher	Free University of Bozen-Bolzano	Master	Translation, scientific contribution, scientific lecture
05.2015-09.2015	Commissioned researcher	Free University of Bozen-Bolzano	Master	Realization of semi-structured interviews in German and Italian, interview transcription, translation
12.2010-02.2011	Editorial internship	Human rights organization "Gesellschaft fuer bedrohte Voelker" Vienna		Authoring and editing of articles

Education

From / to	Job title	Name of academic Institution	Academic level	responsibilities
09.2022-08.2023	Teacher for as German second language	LBS Savoy Meran		Teaching
04.2022-05.2022	Language teacher for Ukrainian refugees	Language Center Meran		Teaching
10.2017-08.2020	Teacher for as German second language	Language Center Meran		Teaching
03.2013-06.2013	Teacher for German,	WFO "Franz Kafka" Meran		Teaching

	History, Political Science and German as second language			
10.2013	Teacher for German, Mathematics and Nature study	Secondary School "Vigil Raber" Sterzing		Teaching

Participation in exhibitions

- Participation in the elaboration of the exhibition based on the project TRACES "My grandma, my mother and me – Traces of the Past, Responsibility for Today", Women's museum Merano

Experience in academic teaching

- Academic year 2025-2026 lecturer, Università degli Studi di Padova; sociologia dei beni culturali e comunicativi
- Academic year 2023-2024 lecturer, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Roma; general sociology
- 04.2022 and 04.2023 guest lecturer, Università di Verona, Province College for Health-Care Professions "Claudiana" Bozen; Sociology, Family and Migration

Conferences and workshops

- Presentation at TISSA, The international 'Social Work & Society' Academy, Porto, 2025 (selected): TRACES-TRANsgenerational ConsEquences of Sexual violence. The Hidden Continuum: Transgenerational Consequences of Sexualized Violence Against Women and the Role of Social Work
- Presentation of the research-project TRACES at IAWM International Association of Women's Museums. August 25, Merano
- Presentation at CIRSS 2024, IV Conferenza Italiana sulla Ricerca di Servizio Sociale, Lecce (selected): Conferenza TRACES - Transgenerational consequences of sexual violence. Una ricerca azione partecipativa femminista con donne sopravvissute alla violenza sessuale in Sudtirolo, Italia
- Contribution to the workshop "Forschungslogik": Praxistheorie und Migration, FZ Social Theory, Innsbruck University 2023
- Presentation at ESA RN35 (Sociology of Migration) mid-term conference, Strasbourg 2019 (selected): Social networks of migrants from Pakistan and Germany in South Tyrol – Beyond a cultural essentialist view on integration
- Presentation at 13th ESA (European Sociological Association) Conference, Athens 2017 (selected): Social networks of mobile people and migrants in South Tyrol, an autonomous territory in Northern Italy: A sociological research on integration processes
- Presentation at Annual Conference of the Swiss Anthropological Association (SAA), Lausanne 2016: Roma and Sinti in the Catholic Church: Religious transformations and new ways of participation

Memberships

Member of the Research Centre Social Theory, Innsbruck University

Scholarships

Grant for short-term, academic theses work abroad, Vienna University

Publications

- Fleckinger, A. & Gruber, D. (2026). TRACES: TRANsgenerational ConsEquences of Sexual Violence: Eine feministisch-partizipative Aktionsforschung zu den Langzeitfolgen sexualisierter Gewalt in Südtirol. Forschungsbericht, Universität Trient.
- Fleckinger, A., Gruber, D., Senoguz, P., Griesse, K., Poggio, P. (2025). Transgenerational traumatization and sexualized violence: A systematic review on an omnipresent, shadowed theme in social work theory and practice. *The British Journal of Social Work*, 00 (1-22) <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjsw/bcaf061>
- Gruber, D. (2024) Rezension. Wiebke Sievers, Rainer Bauböck, Ian Josipovic, Dženeta Karabegović und Kyoko Shinozaki (Hg.) (2022): *Jenseits der Migrantologie. Aktuelle Herausforderungen und Perspektiven der Migrationsforschung*. Jahrbuch Migrationsforschung 6. *Österreich Z Soziol* 49, 269–273 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11614-024-00556-4>
- Gruber, D. (2019): Transnational religious networks of Roma and Sinti in France and Austria. In: Profanter, Annemarie (Hrsg.): *Kulturen im Dialog V. Fünftes JungakademikerInnen-Forum in Südtirol*. Peter Lange, S.35-49
- Gruber, D. (2011): Bettelverbot entzieht vielen Roma und Sinti die Lebensgrundlage. In: Zeitschrift für bedrohte Völker Nr.1, S.17

Language competence

German: Mother language
Italian: Written and spoken C1
English: Written and spoken B2

20.08.2026