

**Transdisciplinary research, life course and cross-cultural perspectives  
in the era of AI**

**5 ESCs:** PhD level

**Organizer:** The Navigating Knowledge Landscapes (NKL) network,  
in collaboration with Østfold University College and University West

**Responsible institutions:** Østfold University College (Nor), University West (Swe)

**Hours:** 130 -140 (corresponds to 3,5 weeks of work)

**Activities:** Reading, participation in teaching activities, and examination

**Literature:** 1000-1500 pages

**Evaluation:** Three written and one oral presentation, active participation in PhD training event, and mandatory participation in seminar prior to PhD-training event. Lectures will be recorded and made available digitally.

**Grades:** pass/fail

**Topic:** Digital society affects all aspects of contemporary life. This course exposes the PhD-students to an international multidisciplinary group of researchers with experience from cross disciplinary collaborations in the area of knowledge production, communication and health, in the digital society. The focus of the course is threefold: 1) Facilitate and encourage international and cross disciplinary collaboration between PhD-students. 2) Present theoretical and practical knowledge about cross disciplinary and transdisciplinary work, including elaboration on the implications of digitalization and AI. 3) Providing the students with tools to help them develop an understanding of key perspectives and debates in ongoing research that concerns the digital society and AI by exposing them the different experiences and perspectives.

**Aim:** The aim of the course is to establish an empirical and conceptual foundation for transdisciplinary research in and about the digital society. The course builds from previous PhD training events and research from the research network [Navigating Knowledge Landscapes](#) (NKL). Accepted extended abstracts (500-750 words) will be published as proceedings in a peer-reviewed social science journal. Students will be offered collaboration for future publication of the final texts (2500-3000 words) in a free-to-publish open access peer-reviewed journal.

The course is multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary in its approach, and multiple disciplines are represented both in content and lecturers. The course will strengthen the students' understanding of how digital societies affect and are affected by the more systemic aspects of citizens' life (democracy, society, and human rights), and the contextuality, complexity and capabilities of the individual (as researcher, patient, citizen, etc.).

**The NKL network**

The overall topic of the course is digitalization and AI, transdisciplinary work and collaboration. The course is organized by the NKL network and draws on the interdisciplinary expertise of its members.

The global NKL research network has built a sound interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary publication record through 10 years of multidisciplinary collaboration. We have organized annual conferences since 2017 and have developed and implemented three prior PhD training events. We follow the NKL tradition of localizing the course at a host organization. This year, the local organizers are Østfold University College (Norway) and University West (Sweden). The course is connected to Østfold University Colleges PhD-program *Digitalization and Society*. The local organizers issue diplomas.

Lectures and tutoring sessions will benefit from NKL-members' cross-disciplinary publications on the topic of knowledge, communication and health in the digital society, which offers insights into how to approach and succeed with cross-disciplinary collaboration and transdisciplinary work.

The NKL network intends to offer the course annually, focusing on cross disciplinary collaboration and transdisciplinary work. Elaborating knowledge, communication and health in the digital society will continue to be the overall topic. Focal points will vary and depend on the local organizer. In 2026 Transdisciplinary work, digitalization and AI will be the focal point.

**Teaching and “student paper”**

Online lecturing, tutoring at the PhD training event, and examination, will be conducted by NKL members and organized by the local hosts. Expertise from the humanities, medicine, Law, social sciences, and technology will be represented.

The first online session focuses on key frameworks for research, and how these frameworks have implications for research on digitalization and AI. Particular attention is given to human rights, democracy, clinical ethics and research ethics.

The second online session focuses on research and theories elaborating digital sociology, risk analysis, and new technology.

The third online session focuses on how to understand different generations within the digital society from a cross-cultural perspective, with particular attention to AI.

**Teaching:**

- 3 half days of lectures in combination with discussion 8AM-11:30AM Norwegian time, 4PM-7:30PM Australian time
- Participation in Lunch-to-Lunch conference
- 1 day PhD training event including oral presentation of project, seminars, and discussions with tutors and colleagues.

*Mandatory text production:*

- Abstract 250 words (to be submitted as part of registration to the course prior to online teaching)
- Extended text, 500-750 words, to be distributed between colleagues. The extended text lays the ground for the oral presentation in the PhD training event.
- Final text 2500-3000 words, on interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary aspects in the PhD students' own project. The final text is expected to include presentation, discussion and incorporation of recommended literature

**Lectures and chairs of discussion, tutors at the PhD-training event:**

Topic	Lecturer	Chair of lecture	Tutors PhD-event
Human rights, democracy and the law in the age of AI	Ivana Damjanovic Inigo DeMiguel	Camilla Buzzi	ID CB
Research ethics and bioethics in AI-related research and practice	Zoran Todorovic Ana Borovecki	Jonas Hermansson	ZT JH
Digital sociology, social media and learning	Matjaz Vidmar Ann Svendsson	Fredrik Andersen	JA MV AS
Risk and risk analysis	Elin Montelius Predrag Pale	Fredrik Andersen	PP FA
Indigenous perspectives	Ketil LH Sámi Shawn Wilson	Anna Lydia S	KLH SW ALS
Youth and cross-cultural perspectives	Kate Senior Richard Chenhall	Espen MF	KS RC EMF

At the PhD-training event the group of tutors will be divided in two teams, one for the first half of the PhD-training event, and one for the second half of the PhD-training event.

### First half

**Ivana** - Political Science, Serbia: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ivana-Damnjanovic-2>

**Zoran** - Medicine, medical ethics, Serbia: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Zoran-Todorovic-2>

**Joachim** – Sociology, Germany: <https://www.hs-fulda.de/en/nutritional-food-and-consumer-studies/about-us/professorships/profile/person/prof-dr-joachim-allgeier-2-2878/contactBox>

**Matjaz** - Science and Technology Studies, UK: <https://eng.ed.ac.uk/about/people/dr-matjaz-vidmar>

**Fredrik** - philosophy of science, Norway:  
<https://www.hiof.no/hvo/vlo/english/people/aca/fredrand/index.html>

**Ketil** - Epidemiologi & Sámi health, Sàpmi and Norway:  
[https://en.uit.no/ansatte/person?p\\_document\\_id=43511&p\\_dimension\\_id=201918](https://en.uit.no/ansatte/person?p_document_id=43511&p_dimension_id=201918)

**Anna Lydia** - PSA & religious studies, Norway:  
<https://www.hiof.no/hvo/vlo/english/people/aca/als/index.html>

**Richard** - medical anthropology, Australia: <https://findanexpert.unimelb.edu.au/profile/294287-richard-chenhall>

### Second half

**Camilla** - Political Science, Norway: <https://www.hiof.no/hvo/vlo/english/people/aca/camillbu/index.html>

**Jonas** – Medicine, Sweden: <https://www.angeredsnarsjukhus.se/om-angereds-narsjukhus/fouu/>

**Ann** – Informatics, Sweden: <https://www.hv.se/personal/ann-svensson/>

**Predrag** – Informatics, Croatia: <https://www.fer.unizg.hr/en/predrag.pale>

**Shawn** - Community building, Indigenous studies, Canada: <https://ccgs.ok.ubc.ca/about/contact/shawn-wilson/>

**Kate** - medical anthropology, Australia: <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/profile/kate-senior>

**Espen** - anthropology, restorative justice, Norway: <https://www.hiof.no/hvo/vlo/personer/und-forsk-ansatte/espenmf/>