

**Dr. Germain MEULEMANS**

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PhD in Social Anthropology of the University of Aberdeen (UK) / Social and Political Sciences of the University of Liège (Belgium).

Master in Social and Cultural Anthropology of the University of Liège, Belgium.

## Curriculum Vitae, June 2020

Past occupations and education	
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| 2018-2019     | <b>IFRIS Postdoctoral fellow</b> at the Centre Alexandre Koyré (EHESS, CNRS, MNHN) in Paris.  |
| 2012-2017     | <b>Joint-PhD in Anthropology</b> between the University of Aberdeen (Scotland. Supervised by Prof. Tim Ingold and Dr. Caroline Gatt) and the University of Liège (Belgium. Supervised by Prof. Véronique Servais).<br>Title: <i>The lure of pedogenesis. An anthropological foray into making urban soils in contemporary France</i><br>Fully funded by the National Foundation for Scientific Research (FNRS, Belgium).<br>Passed without corrections on June 5, 2017.<br>Examiners: Prof. Maria Puig de la Bellacasa, Prof. Yves Winkin, Dr. Andrew Whitehouse. |
| 2014          | <b>International Visiting Researcher</b> , Institute of Ecology and Environmental Sciences (iEES Paris).  |
| Jan-June 2012 | <b>Editorial assistant</b> , École Pratique des Hautes Études (Paris). Literature review and editing tasks for an encyclopedia on Environmental Anthropology of Central and Northern Asia's nomadic people. Supervisor: Dr. Charles Stépanoff. Funded by Leonardo Da Vinci European Program.  |
| 2009-2011     | <b>Master of Research in Social and Cultural Anthropology</b> at the University of Liège. Thesis title: "Incorporating an integrated pest management approach. Vision and movement in the protection of French mountain prairies" (in French).<br>Director: Prof. Véronique Servais (Jury: Dr. Marc Lenaerts, Dr. Catherine Mougenot).<br>Distinction: Highest Honours and Jury congratulations.  |
| Feb-July 2011 | <b>Assistant researcher</b> in a French agriculture research center (VetAgro-Sup, Clermont-Ferrand). Applied anthropology on the development of sustainable techniques of pest management and prairie conservation.   |
| 2009          | <b>Erasmus exchange student</b> at the University of Lyon 2 (France), Master 1 in Anthropology.   |
| 2006-2009     | <b>B.A. in Sociology and Anthropology</b> at the University of Liège.   |

### Affiliation to research programmes

- 2020-2023 Scientific coordinator for the IPAUP-C93 project. Co-construction of knowledge and practices around soil pollution in the Seine-Saint-Denis department. Funded by the French Environmental Agency (ADEME) CO3 scheme.
- Depuis 2018 Group of Scientific Interest GIS IFRIS and Excellence Laboratory Labex SITES, dedicated to the study of science-society relationships.
- Depuis 2017 Member of the *Soil Care Network* animated by Anna Krzywoszynska at the University of Sheffield.
- 2013-2017 Associate Member of Knowing from the Inside (KFI), European Research Council (ERC) project held at the University of Aberdeen (<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/anthropology/postgrad/documents/art-architecture-design.doc>).

### Fieldwork

- 2017-2019 Fieldwork with diggers, geotechnicians and water engineers in France.
- 2017 Fieldwork in Saclay, on the theme of urban sprawl.
- 2013-2018 Fieldwork with city councils, construction workers and ecological engineers in Paris (France).
- Spring 2011 Fieldwork with farm technicians and cattle breeders in Jura Mountains (France). Funded by the French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development.
- 2010 Fieldwork in Belgian natural reservations and in a hospital chaplaincy.

### Publications

#### a. Articles in peer-reviewed journals

- Germain Meulemans and Céline Granjou, accepted, 'Le sol, nouvelle frontière pour les savoirs et les politiques de l'environnement. Introduction au numéro thématique'. [Soil: a new frontier for environmental sciences and politics] *Revue d'anthropologie des connaissances*, 14 (3).
- Germain Meulemans, accepted, 'The swarming life of pastures: living with vole outbreaks in the French Jura uplands.' *Social Anthropology*.
- Germain Meulemans, 2020, 'Urban pedogeneses: the making of city soils from hard surfacing to the urban soil sciences'. *Environmental Humanities*, 12 (1), 250-266. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1215/22011919-8142330>

Germain Meulemans, 2019, 'Wormy Collaborations in Practices of Soil Construction.' *Theory, Culture & Society*, 37 (1), 93-112. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0263276419851857>

Germain Meulemans, 2019, 'Fonder les villes. Comment les terrassiers comprennent le sol.' [Founding cities: understanding the soil as an earthworker] *Communications*, 105, 149-159. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3917/commu.105.0149>

Germain Meulemans, Marine Legrand, Anaïs Tondeur, Yesenia Thibault-Picazo, Alan Vergnes, 2018, 'Soil fictions: addressing urban soils between art, soil ecology and anthropology'. *Collaborative Anthropologies*, 10 (1-2): 20-44. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1353/cla.2017.0001>

#### b. Articles in non-peer-reviewed journals

Germain Meulemans and Anaïs Tondeur, 2018, 'Nous hantons les lisières' [Haunting the field edges], *Billebaude*, n°12: 32-37.

Shagufta Bhangu, Ally Bisshop, Sasha Engelmann, Germain Meulemans, Hugo Reinert and Yesenia Thibault-Picazo, 2016, 'Feeling/Following: Creative Experiments and Material Play', in *The Anthropocene Issue*. Online: <https://www.anthropocene-curriculum.org/contribution/feeling-following-creative-experiments-and-material-play>

#### c. Guest editor for a peer-reviewed journal

Céline Granjou and Germain Meulemans, accepted, 'Le sol, nouvelle frontière pour les savoirs et les politiques de l'environnement.' [Soil: a new frontier for environmental sciences and politics] Special issue of the *Revue d'Anthropologie des Connaissances*.

#### b. Book chapters

Germain Meulemans, accepted, 'Cultural understandings of soils in the global urban North: soil as waste, green infrastructure, and tool for social change' in Erik Brevik, Christian Feller, Sabine Grunwald et Nikola Patzel [eds.] *Cultural Understanding of Soils*, Stuttgart: Schweizerbart.

Germain Meulemans, 2020, 'Reclaiming Freak Soils: From Reconquering to Journeying with Urban Soils' in Juan F. Salazar, Céline Granjou, Anna Krzywoszynska, Matthew Kearnes and Manuel Tironi [eds.] *Thinking with Soils: Material Politics and Social Theory*, 157-174, London: Bloomsbury.

Germain Meulemans, 2018, 'Des hommes qui creusent : suivre le sol en pédologie' (Those who dig: following soil in pedology) in Léo Mariani and Carine Plancke [eds.] *(D)écrire les affects*, 299-325, Paris: Petra.

Tim Ingold and Germain Meulemans, 2018, 'Ice and Soil' in Liz Ogilvie [ed.] *Out of Ice: The Secret Language of Ice*, 70-73, London: Black Dog.

Germain Meulemans, Anaïs Tondeur, Alan Vergnes, Marine Legrand, Yesenia Thibault-Picazo, 2018, 'Chaoïds : Are we playing now?' in Caroline Gatt [ed.] *The Voices of the Pages*, 5-21, Aberdeen: KFI.

Germain Meulemans, 2017, 'Mummified gravel: the versatility of asphalt' in Rachel Harkness [ed.] *An unfinished compendium of materials*, 10-13, Aberdeen: KFI.

Germain Meulemans and Tibo Labat, 2016, 'Le chantier comme enquête: ce que les sols des villes font à l'architecture' in Panos Mantziaras and Paola Viganò [eds.] *Le sol des villes – ressource et projet*, 145-158, Geneva : Metispresses,

#### c. Book reviews

Germain Meulemans, 2018, Review of the book *Humanités environnementales. Enquêtes et contre-enquêtes*. by G. Blanc, É. Demeulenaere & W. Feuerhahn [eds.]. *Social Anthropology*.

Germain Meulemans, 2013, Review of the book *Who Owns the Stock? Collective and Multiple Property Rights in Animals (vol. 5)*, by A.M. Khazanov & G. Schlee [eds.]. *Sibirica*, n°12, Vol. 2, 111-112.

#### d. Public outreach

Anaïs Tondeur and Germain Meulemans, 2018 *Pétrichor : L'odeur des terres de Montreuil*. Montreuil: Centre Tignous. 29 p.

Anaïs Tondeur and Germain Meulemans, 2017 'Interview: Urban sprawl: a co-built spectre.' *L'édition, Journal of the University Paris-Saclay*, 6, p.17.

Germain Meulemans and Anaïs Tondeur, 2017, 'On the unfeasibility to record a worm's movements' in Elizabeth Hodson [dir.] *Imagination, interiors, surface*, Aberdeen: KFI.

Anaïs Tondeur, Alan Vergnes, Germain Meulemans, Marine Legrand, Yesenia Thibault-Picazo, 2016, 'Le sol parle. Comment l'écouter ?' *Sillo*, 2, 10-13.

## Scientific Presentations

### a. Oral presentations at conferences with scientific selection committee

- 20/09/2018 (with Élise Demeulenaere) *Microbial socialities of making soil and cheese*. Presentation at the international conference 'ASA18: Sociality, matter, and the imagination: re-creating Anthropology' (Oxford, ASA, University of Oxford).
- 20/06/2017 *Urban pedogeneses: an ethnography of the co-constitution of urbanites and city soils*. Presentation at the 'Rediscovering soils' workshop (Sheffield, The University of Sheffield).
- 03/09/2016 *Urban soils with a sideways glance*. Presentation at the international conference '4S/EASST 2016: Science + Technology by Other Means' (Barcelona, The Society for Social Studies of Science ; The European Association for the Study of Science and Technology).
- 21/07/2016 *Soil fiction: the experience of a neglected urban thing*. Presentation at the international conference 'EASA2016: Anthropological legacies and human futures' (Milan, The European Association of Social Anthropologists).
- 06/07/2016 *City dwellers without a background*. Presentation at the international conference 'ASA16: Footprints and futures: the time of anthropology' (Durham, The Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth).
- 29/04/2016 *Le pédologue et la ville: du miasme à l'ingénierie écologique* (Pedology and the city: from miasma to ecological engineering). Presentation at the symposium 'Polluted soils' (Brussels, ULB, USL-B).
- 16/03/2016 *Des hommes qui creusent. Suivre le sol en pédologie* (Those who dig. Following soils in pedology). Presentation at the symposium '(D)écrire les affects: enjeux et perspectives anthropologiques' (Paris, Musée de l'Homme).
- 22/09/2015 (with Tibo Labat). *Reanimating urban soils: intraventions to think by and through a hybrid object*. Presentation at the international conference 'Quinzaine de l'urbanisme, Journée Bernardo Secchi' (Geneva, Fondation Braillard and École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne).
- 30/06/2015. *Construire pour connaître. Les expérimentations dans le monde de la science des sols très anthropisés*. (Making as knowing. Experimental practices in the sciences of anthropogenic soils). Presentation at the conference 'AFS15 : La sociologie, une science contre-nature ?' (Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, Association Française de Sociologie).
- 15/04/2015. *A proletariat of diggers. Worms as engineers in practices of soil construction*. Presentation at the international conference 'ASA15: Symbiotic anthropologies: theoretical commensalities and methodological mutualisms' (Exeter, the Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth).
- 06/02/2014. *Échec aux rats : activités agricoles, dynamiques du paysage et rythmes de résonance*. (No rat shall pass : agricultural activity, landscape dynamics and rhythms of resonance). Presentation at the conference ARTEFACT (Québec, Université Laval).

28/10/2013. *Hands-on with voles. Procedures and distributed activity in agriculture.* Presentation at the conference 'Ideas in movement: Addressing tensions in anthropology' (Aberdeen, Royal Anthropological Institute).

06/09/2013. *Movements of knowledge in ecologically oriented management regimes.* Poster presentation at the 8th ALTER-Net Summer School (Peyresq).

30/08/2013. *Is applied ecology a mode of inquiry?* Presentation at the Forest history, biodiversity and dynamics Summer School (University of Umeå)

b. Other and invited presentations

28/01/2020 *Préparer et mener un terrain ethnographique : retour d'expérience(s).* Presentation at the seminar 'Sources et méthodes pour l'histoire et l'étude des sciences, des techniques et des savoirs' at Centre Alexandre-Koyré (Paris, EHESS).

16/04/2019 *Growing and governing city surfaces: anthropology and the urban soil sciences.* Presentation at the department seminar 'The world/s at the ends of the city. Explorations in urban and environmental anthropology' of the Institute of European Ethnology (Berlin, Humboldt University).

15/04/2019 *Experimental soil ethnography: Two projects across art and anthropology.* Presentation at the seminar 'Stadtlabor for multimodal anthropology' at the Institute of European Ethnology (Berlin, Humboldt University).

19/03/2019 *Les sols et la ville : une anthropologie des sciences du sol urbain.* Presentation at the joint seminars 'Gouverner le progrès' and 'Changement climatique et biosphère' (Paris, Centre A. Koyré).

29/01/2019 *Anthropologie des politiques de la terre : trois pistes de recherche.* Presentation at the symposium 'Journées Humanités Environnementales' (Grenoble, Université Grenoble Alpes, Magasin des horizons).

01/12/2018 (with Anaïs Tondeur) *An Alchemy of Soils.* Presentation at the symposium 'The Shape of a Circle in the Mind of a Fish' (London, The Serpentine, The University of Westminster).

02/07/2018 *Le coming out des sols des villes : Reconquérir ou réanimer?* Presentation at the workshop 'Biopolitiques des sols et sous-sols' (Grenoble, IRSTEA).

09/12/2017 (with Anaïs Tondeur) *Auprès de nos monstres. Sols urbains, processus de fiction et alchimie.* Public talk at the Centre Tignous, Montreuil.

14/11/2017 *Construire du sol : du programme de recherche à l'ingénierie écologique* (Constructing soil : from research programs to ecological engineering). Presentation at the 'Les SHS et le sol' research day (Paris, AgroParisTech).

14/03/2017 (with Marine Legrand and Anaïs Tondeur) *Ethnographie et arts visuels: supports plastiques et sensoriels dans une enquête en sciences sociales* (Ethnography and the visual arts :

sensory practice in a social science research project). Presentation at the seminar *Méthodes visuelles et sensorielles. Approches transdisciplinaires pour les sciences sociales* (Paris, EHES).

26/05/2016 *L'émergence d'une science des sols urbains : quelques jalons et questions* (The emergence of a science of city soils: a few milestones and questions). Presentation at the seminar of the INTER department (Paris, MNHN).

12/05/2016 *The trial of city soils: testing practices of construction*. Presentation at the seminar of the Anthropology Department (University of Aberdeen)

14/01/2016 *Enseignements théoriques et méthodologiques d'une enquête auprès d'ingénieurs écologues sur la construction des sols par / avec les lombrics* (Theoretical and methodological implications of an inquiry with ecological engineers on soil construction by/with earthworms). Presentation at the seminar 'Anthropologie et politiques de la nature' (Paris, MNHN).

24/06/2014 *Knowing soils in the making. An anthropology of construction with human and non-human ecological engineers*. Presentation at the seminar of the 'Arts Plastiques et Sciences de l'Art' department, (Paris, Sorbonne).

13/05/2014 *Entre savoir et faire: suivre le matériau en ingénierie écologique* (Halfway between knowing and making: following materials in ecological engineering). Presentation at the seminar of the 'Laboratoire d'anthropologie sociale et culturelle' (Liège, ULg).

04/05/2012 *Transmission technique entre science et élevage* (Technical transmission from scientists to breeders). Presentation at the 'Transmission culturelle' workshop (Paris, EHES).

02/05/2012 *Écologie et élevage en Tchoukotka. Science, savoir-faire et communauté* (Ecology and breeding in Chukotka. Science, skills and identity). Presentation at the department seminar of the Centre for Mongolian and Siberian Studies (Paris, EPHE).

04/07/2011 *Interactions techniciens-éleveurs: former un regard commun* (Technicians and Cattle-breeders : Calibrating a common vision). Presentation at the Campagnol project conference (Lyon, VetAgro-Sup).

20/06/2011 (with Olivia Ensminger) *Contribution à la mise au point d'une méthode agro-anthropologique d'accompagnement à la modification de pratiques agricoles* (Contribution to an argo-anthropological methodology for accompanying change in farming practices). Poster and presentation at the UMR Métaphort conference (Theix, INRA).

### Teaching and tutoring

2020 Master 1 course 'Introduction to sociological methods' (Sociology department, AgroParisTech, Paris).

2020 Master 1 elective course 'Understanding Controversies: Expertise, Power and Economic Issues' (Sociology department, AgroParisTech, Paris).

- 2019-2020 Tutoring for the course 'Sciences and Societies' (Dr. Thomas Tari, Sciences-Po Paris).
- June 2019 (with Céline Pessis, Cecila Rikap and Alexis Zimmer) organization of the postgraduate workshop *Planter, degrader, récolter. Raconter les terres abîmées du capitalisme* (IFRIS summer school, Marseille).
- May 2018 (with Tiziana Beltrame and Cecilia Rikap) organization of the postgraduate workshop *Nonlinear futures* (IFRIS summer school, Bordeaux).
- 08/11/2016 Presentation for the seminar 'Séminaire de préparation au mémoire' (Fanny Theunissen, University of Liège).
- 13/10/2016 Intervention in the High School class of Anaïs Tondeur (Neuilly sur Marne, Collège Honoré de Balzac ; Paris, Centre Pompidou).
- 13/09/2016 Intervention in the High School class of Anaïs Tondeur (Les Lilas, Lycée Paul Robert ; Centre Culturel Jean-Cocteau).
- Mar-Apr 2015 Tutoring for the course "Histoire naturelle de la communication humaine" (Prof. Véronique Servais, University of Liège).
- Feb-June 2013 Tutoring for the course "Humans and Other Animals" (Dr. Andrew Whitehouse – University of Aberdeen).
- March 2011 Tutoring for the "Landscape Ambassadors" workshops in Clermont-Ferrand (Fr). Teaching of qualitative interview methodology to a class of agronomy students.

### Organisation of scientific events

- 2020 Member of the scientific committee of the conference *Soils and subsoils in socio-ecological transition: Interdisciplinary perspectives for human and social sciences* (Univ. Grenoble Alpes, INRAE).
- 16-17/09/2019 (with Céline Granjou) organization of the conference 'Le sol: nouvelle frontière pour les politiques de l'environnement' (Paris, IFRIS, Centre A. Koyré).
- 20/09/2018 (with Élise Demeulenaere) convenor of the panel (*Env11*) *Sensing and making with microbial worlds: anthropological engagements with microorganisms*, with Jamie Lorimer (disc.), at the international conference 'ASA18: Sociality, matter, and the imagination: re-creating Anthropology' (Oxford, ASA, University of Oxford).
- 11/07/2018 (with Nolwenn Gauthier and Elizabeth Remy) organization of the workshop *Quel(s) sol(s) pour nourrir les villes de demain ?* at the National Conference 'JES 2018: Le sol au coeur des enjeux sociétaux' (Rouen, AFES).
- Mar-Jul 2018 (with Helena Prado) inquiry and report on the career paths of ex IFRIS postdocs.

- 18 Jan 2018 Co-organization and chair of the doctoral and postdoctoral sessions at the IFRIS yearly conference and general assembly (Université Paris 5-Descartes).
- Sept 2015 Organization of the postgraduates and early career sessions at the Beyond Perception 15 symposium in Aberdeen. Convenor of the panels (with Tara Joly): *Material Entanglements ; Skilled Practice ; Inhabiting the World as a Maker: Building, Making, Technology.*

<b>Dissemination and extra academic work</b>
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a. Workshops and talks

- 06/06/2019 (with Anaïs Tondeur) 'Paris flotte-t-il?', presentation (Musée des Arts et Métiers, Paris).
- 18/10/2018 (with the Chaoïd Collective) Presentation of the Chaoïd Collective at the Journée Développement Durable Responsabilité Sociétale, (Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier).
- 18/03/2018 Organisation and animation of the public round table 'Sols de plomb', (Centre Tignous d'Art Contemporain, Montreuil).
- 29/05/2017 (with the Chaoïd Collective) Animation of a workshop on the soils of Aberdeen for primary school students at the May Festival (Aberdeen).
- 15/10/2016 (with the Soil Fiction Collective) Animation of a workshop on the life of urban soils at the Science National Days (Montpellier).
- 14/10/2016 (with the Soil Fiction Collective) Public debate 'art et science' (University of Montpellier).
- 13/06/2016 Organization and animation of a debate and a workshop on the Soil Fiction project at the University of Aberdeen (Aberdeen, KFI ; The Anatomy Rooms).
- 12/10/2015 (with the Soil Fiction Collective) Participation in the public debate 'Pour un art de la culture durable' for the Science National Days (Chamarande, Domaine Départemental de Chamarande).

b. Exhibitions

- 2017-2019 With Anaïs Tondeur. *Paris Flotte-t-il*, an art and anthropology exhibition project on urban ground at Musée National des Arts et Métiers, Paris.
- Nov-Dec 2017 (with Anaïs Tondeur and Caroline Petit) Exhibition *Le spectre de l'étalement Urbain*, Médiathèque Léo Ferré (Marcoussis, France).

May-Sept 2017 (with the Chaoid Collective) Participation in the exhibition *The Unfinishing of Things* at the University of Aberdeen.

01/10/2016 (with Anaïs Tondeur) Installation *Pétrichor: the smell of soils* for the Paris Nuit Blanche (Paris, Lycée Charlemagne).

March-May 2016 (with the Soil Fiction Collective) Exhibition *Sols Fictions* at the Domaine Départemental de Chamarande (curated by COAL).

c. Publications for the general public

2019 (with Anaïs Tondeur) *Paris flotte-t-il?* 17 pages. Paris: Musée des arts et métiers.

2018 (with Anaïs Tondeur) *Pétrichor: l'odeur des sols de Montreuil*. 24 pages. Montreuil: Centre Tignous d'art contemporain.

2018 (with Anaïs Tondeur) 'Interview: Urban sprawl: a co-built spectre', *L'édition, Journal of the University Paris-Saclay*, 6, p.17.

<b>Language Skills</b>
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French Native language

English Fluent (speaking, reading, writing)

Dutch Basic

Russian Basic