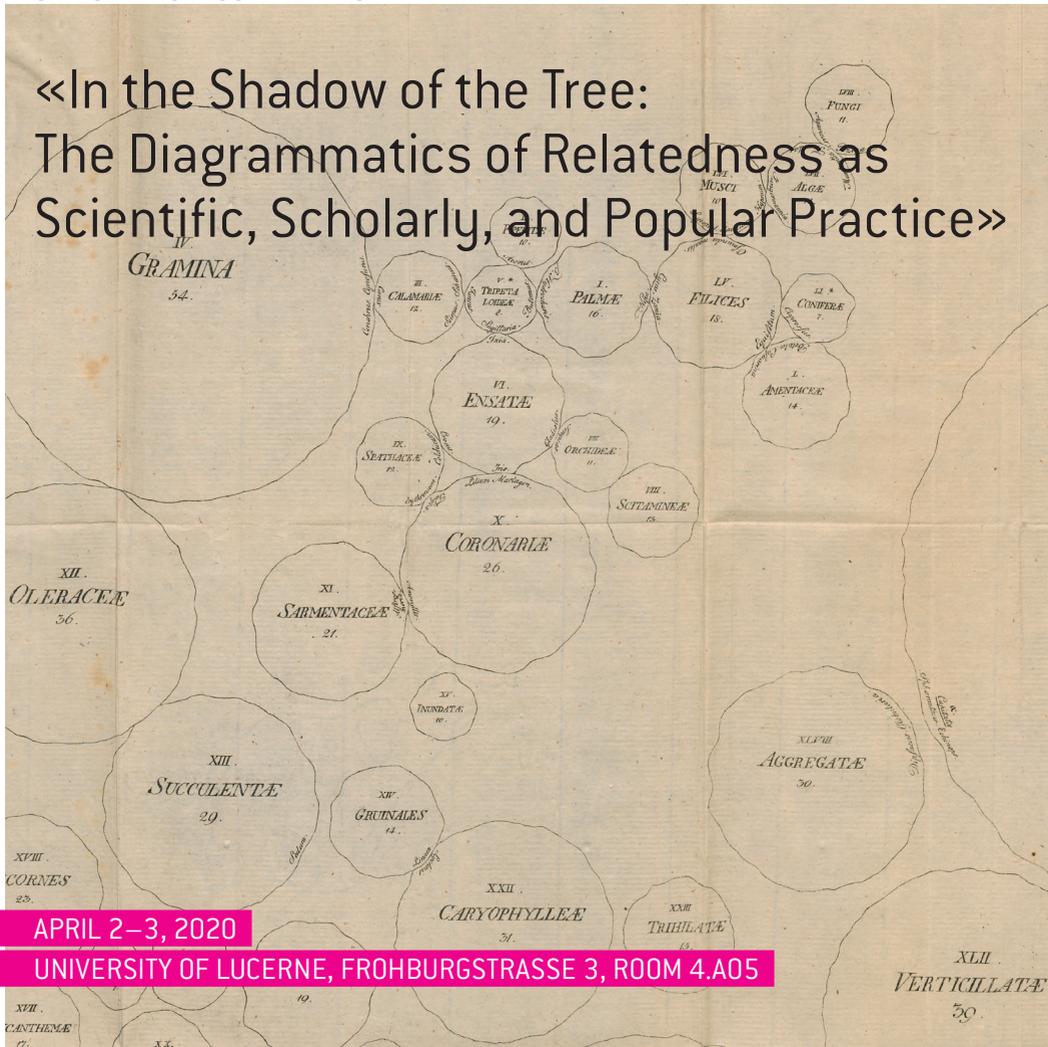


SNF SINERGIA CONFERENCE 1

# «In the Shadow of the Tree: The Diagrammatics of Relatedness as Scientific, Scholarly, and Popular Practice»



APRIL 2–3, 2020

UNIVERSITY OF LUCERNE, FROHBURGSTRASSE 3, ROOM 4.A05

# «In the Shadow of the Tree: The Diagrammatics of Relatedness as Scientific, Scholarly, and Popular Practice» – Conference 1

Visualizations of relatedness between organisms tend to take the shape of diagrams, and these scales, cones, maps, networks, trees, etc. do not simply make visible natural connections but create or deny kinship in particular ways and for particular reasons. In the Sinergia project, we investigate diagrams of relatedness in Western Europe and in spaces of European expansion since the late medieval period in the areas of genealogy, natural history, biology, heredity, and anthropology. In doing so, we develop diagrammatics as a methodology that interrelates disciplinary approaches to working with and working on diagrams. Understanding diagrams as techniques that transcend such binaries as ‘thought and action’ and ‘image and text,’ we aim at a comparative analysis of how they were made and used, of how diagrams of relatedness function as epistemic, cultural, and political practices, e.g. with respect to incest prohibition, (male) hereditary succession of power and wealth, or the constitution of ‘racial relations’ and the determination of ‘purity of blood.’

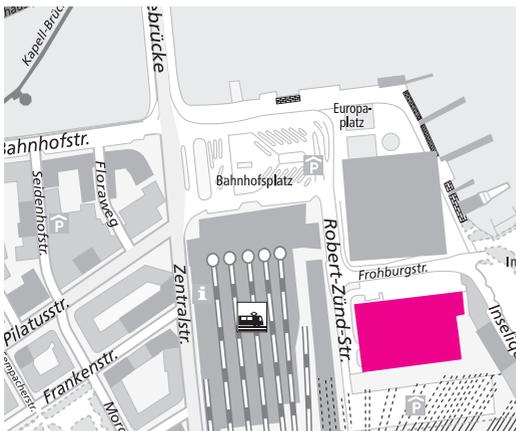
The first international conference focuses on *Genealogy (15<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> c.)*: Stéphane Jettot (Paris Sorbonne), Michaela Hohkamp (University of Hannover), Simon Teuscher (University of Zurich), Jean-Paul Zuñiga (EHESS Paris); *Natural History, Biology, Heredity (18<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> c.)*: Hans-Jörg Rheinberger (MPIWG Berlin), Ariane Dröscher (University of Trento), Amir Teicher (Tel Aviv University), Ted Porter (UCLA); and *Anthropology (17<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> c.)*: Staffan Müller-Wille (Cambridge University), Marianne Sommer (University of Lucerne), Helen Gardner (Deakin University Melbourne).

**Conveners:** Marianne Sommer, Simon Teuscher, Staffan Müller-Wille, Caroline Arni

For a detailed program see <https://www.unilu.ch/snfsinergiatree>.

For more information contact coordinator Eric Hounshell ([snfsinergiatree@unilu.ch](mailto:snfsinergiatree@unilu.ch)).

Financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation.



**Venue**  
University of Lucerne  
Frohbürgstrasse 3  
Lucerne  
Room 4.B05