

Dr. Christiane Falck

Akademische Rätin a.Z. (lecturer & postdoctoral researcher, fixed term contract)

Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology and the Ethnographic Collection
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Education

since 2016 habilitation project, Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany
2016 Doctor of Philosophy, James Cook University, Australia, & Aarhus University, Denmark (co-tutelle agreement)
2010 Magister Artium, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

Languages

German, mother tongue
English, full proficiency both written and spoken
Tok Pisin, Papua New Guinean Pidgin English, full proficiency both written and spoken
French, basic proficiency, both written and spoken
Latin, Latin certificate

Affiliations

Since 07/2017 adjunct research fellow at James Cook University's College of Arts, Society & Education, Australia

Academic Career & Institutional Service

02/2024–08/2025 maternal and parental leave, child 2
04/2022–02/2024 parental leave with part time work
03/2021–03/2022 maternal and parental leave, child 1
since 02/2020 executive board member of the GGV (Göttinger Gesellschaft für Völkerkunde), Germany
since 10/2016 lecturer & researcher (Akademische Rätin a.Z.), Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology and the Ethnographic Collection, Georg-August-University Göttingen, Germany
2016–2018 non-professorial staff representative, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology and the Ethnographic Collection, Georg-August-University Göttingen, Germany
2012–2016 PhD student (Anthropology), James Cook University, Australia, and Aarhus University, Denmark
2003–2010 M.A. Studies (Anthropology; History of the Middle and New Ages), Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Germany

Awards, Scholarships & Grants

2021/2022 Lower Saxony's Ministry of Science and Culture (Germany): Innovative digital teaching and learning grant
01/2020 Faculty of the Social Sciences, Georg-August University Göttingen (Germany): conference grant
04-09/2019 Faculty of the Social Sciences, Georg-August University Göttingen (Germany): research grant
02/2019 DAAD: conference grant (Germany)
09/2018 Australian National University: Hank Nelson Prize for Writing on PNG (Australia)

05/2025

07-09/2018	Dr.-Walther-Liebeheinz-Stiftung: Research grant (Germany)
03/2018	Erasmus Go International Plus: Guest lectureship at University of the South Pacific , Fiji (Germany)
01/2018	DAAD: conference grant (Germany)
09/2017	Dean's Award for Research Higher Degree Excellence (James Cook University, Australia)
02-03/2017	Dr.-Walther-Liebeheinz-Stiftung: Research grant (Germany)
02/2017	DAAD: conference grant (Germany)
11-12/2014	Moesgaard Museum: Research grant (Denmark)
2012-2015	James Cook University: International Prestige Postgraduate Research Scholarship (Australia)
2011	DAAD Scholarship: Guest lectureship at Divine Word University (Germany)

Research Interests

human-environment relationships, Pacific Christianities, religious change, cosmology, political ontology, materiality and material culture, personhood, gender

Fieldwork

04-09/2019	Timbunmeli village, Kandingei village, middle Sepik, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea
07-09/2018	Timbunmeli village, Kandingei village, middle Sepik, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea
03-04/2017	Timbunmeli village, middle Sepik, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea
11-12/2014	Timbunmeli village, middle Sepik, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea
12/2012-01/2014	Timbunmeli village, middle Sepik, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea
04-08/2008	Divine Word University Campus, Madang, Madang Province, Papua New Guinea

Publications

Special Issues

- Falck, C. (ed.) (under review). Pacific Christianities in Motion. Special Issue. *Oceania*.
- Falck, C. and Macdonald, F. (eds.) (under review). The Im/materiality of Pacific Religious Movements. Special Section. *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.
- Macdonald, F. and C. Falck (eds.) (2020) Positioning Culture within Pacific Christianities. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 31(2)

Journal Articles and Reviews

- Falck, C. (under review). Mobility and movement(s) in the Christian landscape of the Sepik region, Papua New Guinea. Special Issue: Pacific Christianities in Motion. *Oceania*.
- Falck, C. (accepted, forthcoming). The Power of Things in a Catholic Charismatic Movement at Lake Chambri, Papua New Guinea. *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.
- Falck, C. (2024). Book Review: Ancestral Presence. Cosmology and Historical Experience in the Papuan Highlands“. By Eric Hirsch. London, UK and New York, NY, USA: Routledge. 2021. Pp: ix + 238. Price: £38.99 (paperback), £130.00 (hardback), £35.09 (eBook). *Oceania* 94 (2): 153–154
- Falck, C. (2023). The Supreme Sukundimi Declaration – Sacred Water, Moral Ecologies and Ontological Politics in a Mining Encounter in Papua New Guinea. *Anthropological Forum*. DOI: 10.1080/00664677.2022.2162847
- Falck, C. (2021) The Gender of God’s Gifts — Dividual Personhood, Spirits and the Statue of Mother Mary in a Sepik Society, Papua New Guinea. *Religions* 12(4): 270. DOI: 10.3390/rel12040270
- Falck, C. (2020) ‘You have to call the right name’: Operation Joshua meets Catholicism and Cosmology at Lake Chambri in Papua New Guinea. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 31(2): 170-186.

- Macdonald, F. and C. Falck (2020) Introduction: Positioning Culture within Pacific Christianities. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 31(2): 123-138.
- Falck, C. (2019) The Thomas Souls Ministry - Onto-praxis, Dividualism, and Charismatic Catholicism at Lake Chambri, Papua New Guinea. *Oceania* 89(3): 301-315.
- Falck, C. (2018) The (Re-)appropriation of Spirit Beings – Spirits of the Dead and Spirits of God in a Sepik Community. *Oceania* 88(1): 107-126.
- Falck, C. (2014) Livets Materialitet og Immaterialitet - Relationen mellem mennesker og ander i Sepik-regionen i en sociokulturel forandringskontekst. *Religion* 4: 8-16.

Contributions to edited volumes

- Falck, C. (2024). Sensible Objekte? Gespräche am Sepik über Objekte in der Göttinger Ethnologischen Sammlung. In: Michael Kraus (ed.). *Weltenfragmente. Die Ethnologische Sammlung der Georg-August-Universität Göttingen*. Göttingen: Universitätsverlag, 304–321.
- Hermann, E., H. Reithofer, C. Falck (2024). Sharing Knowledge on Entangled Histories and Climate Change Consequences in Oceania. Some Insights from doing Public Anthropology at the Ethnographic Collection of Göttingen. In: Moritz Pöllath (ed.) *Didaktische Perspektiven auf die Geschichte und Kultur des Pazifiks*. Frankfurt a.M.: Wochenschau Verlag, 137–149.
- Falck, C. (2022). On the Nyaura Concept of the Person and Healing in a Context of Religious Change. In: Jürg Wassmann (ed.) *Tracking the Ancestors. On their Journeys along the Sepik River in Papua New Guinea*. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 337-360.
- Falck, C. (2019) Afterword. Cultural Change in the Sepik. In: Brigitta Hauser-Schäublin (Ed.), *Women in Kararau. Gendered Lives, Works, and Knowledge in a Middle Sepik Village, Papua New Guinea*, 351-370. Göttingen: Göttingen University Press.
- Falck, C. (2019) The Life of the Dead in a Sepik Community. On Being Haunted in a Haunted World. In: Roger I. Lohmann (Ed.), *Haunted Pacific. Anthropologists Investigate Spectral Apparitions across Oceania*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 63-89. New York: Berghahn Books.
- Falck, C. (2018) The Temporality and Materiality of Life and Death in a Sepik Village. In: S. Hooge Seebach and R. Willerslev (Eds.), *Mirrors of Passing: Unlocking the Mysteries of Death, Materiality, and Time*, 233-249. Berghahn: New York, Oxford.

Digital Teaching Units

- Falck, C., K. Fary, M. Kraus (2023). Digitale Lehreinheit: Nr. 1/Objektforschung und Bedeutung von Sammlungen und Museen. *Museumsethnologische Praxis – Erforschen, Vermitteln und Ausstellen*. Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. https://openilias.uni-goettingen.de/openilias/goto.php?target=crs_2500&client_id=openilias
- Falck, C., K. Fary, M. Kraus (2023). Digitale Lehreinheit: Nr. 2/Die Ethnologische Sammlung Göttingen – Speichermedien und Recherchertools. *Museumsethnologische Praxis – Erforschen, Vermitteln und Ausstellen*. Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. https://openilias.uni-goettingen.de/openilias/goto.php?target=crs_2500&client_id=openilias
- Falck, C., K. Fary, M. Kraus (2023). Digitale Lehreinheit: Nr. 3/Objektbiografien und Wirkmächtigkeit von Dingen. *Museumsethnologische Praxis – Erforschen, Vermitteln und Ausstellen*. Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. https://openilias.uni-goettingen.de/openilias/goto.php?target=crs_2500&client_id=openilias
- Falck, C., K. Fary, M. Kraus (2023). Digitale Lehreinheit: Nr. 4/Provenienzforschung und koloniale Kontexte. *Museumsethnologische Praxis – Erforschen, Vermitteln und Ausstellen*. Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. https://openilias.uni-goettingen.de/openilias/goto.php?target=crs_2500&client_id=openilias
- Falck, C., K. Fary, M. Kraus (2023). Digitale Lehreinheit: Nr. 5/Sensible Objekte – menschliche Überreste in ethnologischen Sammlungen. *Museumsethnologische Praxis – Erforschen, Vermitteln und Ausstellen*. Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. https://openilias.uni-goettingen.de/openilias/goto.php?target=crs_2500&client_id=openilias
- Falck, C., K. Fary, M. Kraus (2023). Digitale Lehreinheit: Nr. 6/Museumspraxis – vor und hinter den Kulissen. *Museumsethnologische Praxis – Erforschen, Vermitteln und Ausstellen*. Georg-

August-Universität Göttingen. https://openilias.uni-goettingen.de/openilias/goto.php?target=crs_2500&client_id=openilias

Monographs

Falck, C. (2016) Calling the Dead – Spirits, Mobile Phones and the Talk of God in a Sepik Community (Papua New Guinea). *PhD Thesis*. Aarhus & Cairns: Aarhus University & James Cook University.

Museum Anthropology & Exhibitions

- 2024-2025 video expert interviews with C. Falck exhibited as part of the 'Warrior' special exhibition at the Moesgaard Museum, Aarhus, Denmark (to become part of the permanent exhibition at the National Museum of Denmark – Danish War Museum)
- 2023 consultant for Sepik region and its warriors for the special exhibition 'Warrior' at the Moesgaard Museum, Aarhus, Denmark
- 2021-2023 production of 6 digital teaching units on museum anthropology
'Museumsethnologische Praxis – Erforschen, Vermitteln und Ausstellen'/'Praxis of Museum Anthropology – Researching, Mediating, and Exhibiting' https://openilias.uni-goettingen.de/openilias/goto.php?target=crs_2500&client_id=openilias
- 2018 'Geister anrufen' – a student exhibition project at the Ethnographic Collection, Göttingen (Germany), based on the research of C. Falck
- 2016-2024 audio-visual material from the research of C. Falck exhibited as part of 'The Life of the Dead' special exhibition at the Moesgaard Museum, Aarhus, Denmark

Teaching

- 03/2018 Guest lectureship at the School of Geography, Earth Science and Environment, University of the South Pacific, Fiji
- since 2016 Lectureship at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology and the Ethnographic Collection, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany
- 06-07/2011 Guest Lectureship at the PNG Studies Department, Divine Word University, Papua New Guinea
- 2006-2008 Tutorship, at the Institute of Anthropology, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Germany

Advanced training

- 2017-2020 Certificate programme of the Section Section for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, Georg-August University, Germany
- 2020/2021 Dorothea Schlözer Career Coaching Programme for female Postdocs

Memberships

- since 2017 GGV (Göttinger Gesellschaft für Völkerkunde)
- since 2016 ASAO (Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania)
- since 2014 ALTAR (Anthropological Laboratory for Tropical Audiovisual Research at James Cook University)