

Collaborating across disciplines

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Film is a complex tool to design narratives yet a powerful one for reaching wider audiences. The outreach and impact of migration research can significantly benefit from audiovisual tools and the collaboration of scholars with artists and designers. When creating audiovisual projects together, new challenges arise across disciplines. Collaborators brings new modes of working together, different principles to storytelling and new formats and channels of dissemination of film and text within and beyond the academic world – all of which need to be resolved for a seamless production. Drawing on the practical experience of a range of projects in collaboration with migration scholars and students at the Berlin-based NGO Migration Matters, this talk will illustrate and further explore fundamental questions of media production, including the following: Whose voices are heard? What challenges do those outside of the media profession face behind and in front of the camera? How can we allow for complexity and nuance, even in short formats? And how can we create empathy and understanding by making an audience personally relate to the content?