

August 2021 - August 2024

One Friday per month  
from 12pm to 2pm

See the event  
online



# SEMINAR new proximities

A monthly meeting with an expert to cross the views of  
researchers and the public on the theme of new proximities.

## GOALS



Capitalize and spread  
knowledge in an  
interdisciplinary manner and  
beyond the strict circles of  
university research



Build a shared knowledge on  
the question of "new  
proximities"



Create action research  
dynamics in the territories

- Rethinking our lifestyles based on proximity
- Work and workplaces in the polycentric city
- Space and time in happy proximity
- Learn and spread knowledge in terms of proximity
- Cultures of territories and territories of cultures
- What economic models for proximity: decarbonisation, circularity, mobility, well-being?
- Being immobile in order to be mobile?
- Amplify the meaning and resonance of citizen actions
- Re-examine public action

## 2021-2022 PROGRAM

**27-28 August  
2021 *The Village***

Launch of the New Proximities  
Seminar during the summer  
university organized with The  
Village.



**October 1<sup>st</sup>  
2021**



Michel Grossetti  
Sociologue, Directeur de  
recherche au CNRS et  
Directeur d'études à  
l'IEHSS, Laboratoire  
interdisciplinaire  
Solidarités, Sociétés,  
Territoires (LISST)

**November 26  
2021**



Dre. Claire Pelgrims  
Docteur en Art de bâtir et  
urbanisme,  
post-doctorante (PDR  
FNRS Centre et esthétique  
du vélo) au sein du  
Laboratoire Sadha,  
Université Libre de  
Bruxelles

**December 3  
2021**



Patrick Bouchain  
Architecte, urbaniste,  
maître d'œuvre,  
scénographe, fondateur de  
l'agence Construire.

**January 14  
2022**



Dre. Pia Fontana  
Docteur en architecture de l'École  
Technique Supérieure de  
Bardonecchia  
Michel Mayorga  
Docteur en architecture et maître  
en urbanisme de l'Université  
Polytechnique de Catalogne,  
architecte de l'Université Nationale  
de Colombie

**February 25  
2022**



Boris Beaudé  
Géographe, chercheur de  
l'École polytechnique  
fédérale de Lausanne  
(EPFL)

**March 18  
2022**



Chris Younes  
Philosophe, Professeure à  
l'École Spéciale  
d'Architecture de Paris et  
Professeure émérite de  
l'École Nationale  
Supérieure d'Architecture  
Paris-La Villette

**April 8  
2022**



Caroline Galliez  
Directrice de recherche à  
l'IFSTTAR au sein du  
Laboratoire Ville Mobilité  
Transport

**May 6  
2022**



Maud Le Floch  
Urbaniste-scénariste,  
Fondatrice du pôle-pôle  
des arts urbains.

**June  
2022**



Jana Revedin  
Architecte diplômée du  
Politecnico di Milano et  
docteur en architecture de  
l'Université IUAV de Venise.

## “New proximities”?

Rather than dealing with what separates, rather than focusing on the growing distances or on the walls that stand between people, collectives, organizations and territories, we have chosen to focus on what brings us closer together. We have chosen to use the key to entering proximities in order to reflect on rapidly changing worlds.

## “Proximities”?

The expression generally refers to “the location which is at short distance from another thing or someone, two or more things which are close together” (CNRTL). The proximities we are talking about are multiple. They are spatial and are measured in meters, kilometers but also in seconds or hours. They are social like those which make it possible to “form a group” and bring together people who are separated by hundreds of kilometers. They are cultural, but also cognitive, when they facilitate dialogue. They are digital when information and communication technologies allow real-time exchanges.

## “New”?

Because the proximities are in full recomposition with the health crisis. Covid has produced another relationship to time and space, that of confinement, curfews, forbidden outings, compulsory slowing down and the rediscovery of slow activities, but also unprecedented pressures on our space-time budgets. All of these transformations raise questions about agitation and acceleration, here and elsewhere, but also about the meaning of the long time and the need to project oneself again despite uncertainty. These questions about the relationship to time, to the present, to the past, to the future pre-existed. The crisis revived them while pointing out the importance and the plural character of proximity.

## “New proximities”

therefore like those at work in the new arrangements of time and space, which we propose to observe and document. New proximity of activities and actors in third places, wasteland, “infinite places” where new energies are born. New proximities also like those put forward around mobilizing figures such as those on a human scale of “15-minute city”, “the territory of the half hour”, of the “village” rediscovered, of the “middle town” resuscitated. New proximity to imagine our ways of living together and inhabiting the earth differently tomorrow. New proximities that bring together players in resistance in ZADs or on roundabouts, those that allow the emergence of new places, sometimes marginal lifestyles. Proximities such as these convergences of approaches between individuals on societal choices linked in particular to ecological transition. Proximities like those which push us to defend again and again the idea of the city as a place of maximization of interactions.

## “New proximities”

finally like those which encourage us to go beyond disciplinary boundaries to imagine and build this seminar which will bring together people from different academic or operational backgrounds from different countries for a meeting that will not be limited to observation and to analysis. Beyond the concepts, it will also make it possible to address the modalities of urban and territorial action, of citizen intervention and will adopt a critical approach on the reflections, projects and practices at work.