



Universität Hamburg

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Researching and Shaping Climate Futures

**J. Baehr, J. Behrens, L. Borchert, M. Brüggemann,
L. Kutzbach, K. Linscott, A. Oberg**

9th course day – June 11th, 2026

Moderator: Kat Linscott

Course coordination: Michael Brüggemann, Lars Kutzbach, Kat Linscott

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Today's Schedule

- **Speed Dating** *60 min*
- **Introduction to Roleplay # 2** *30 min*

Speed Dating

Speed Dating Timing – backup plan (if missing 1 lecturer)

	L1- Joern	L2 - Achim	L3 - Leo	L4 - Lars	L5 - Johanna
Time-Slot 1 (30 min) 10:20ish -10:50	Lucy Sarah Tara	Alicja Alina Ibolya	Mareike Eva Divanshu Marlene	Asli Rami Prashamsa	Alyx Toni Carmen
Time-Slot 2 (30 min) 10:50-11:15ish	Toni Eva Divanshu Alyx	Mareike Marlene Tara	Asli Prashamsa Alicja	Carmen Lucy Alina	Sarah Ibolya Rami



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Introduction to Role Play #2

Kat



Role-Play #2

Imagine that a disparaging article has just been published in a populist/right-wing newspaper (e.g., Die Bild) that accuses climate scientists of hypocrisy...

Role-Play #2

“Climate scientists constantly preach that we must urgently reduce emission. They make you feel guilty about your vacation because the ludicrous price of trains forced you to fly. They tell our governments to levy a carbon tax on combustion engines that punishes the very farmers that feed our country.

And yet, these very scientists fly far more often and far further than the average citizen, to attend conferences in luxurious locations, where all they do is talk.

... Somehow, they are exempt from what they preach -- as if merely talking about the problem absolves them of their role in it, or as if what they do is simply too complicated to handle over video call.... If they cannot figure out a Zoom meeting, what makes them think that they can solve the climate crisis?

And if climate change is as big a concern as they claim, it's time that climate scientists get off their high horse and lead by example.”

Role-Play #2

.... In response to this, a prominent European climate researcher proposes that for THE global climate conference (fictional) held every year in Vienna, researchers should be held to account for their work-related transportation emissions.

They propose adopting the idea of personal CO₂ budgets: researchers will be required to track their individual work-related transportation emissions, with maximum annual budgets, which, once exceeded, result in a ban on in-person attendance for that year (participants can, of course, still participate over Zoom).

They also suggest potentially applying an emissions trading scheme.



Role-Play #2

... This year's conference coincidentally has a special panel on global transportation emissions & will mark the beginning of a special working group on the topic, that will develop guidelines for reaching net-zero in the transportation sector globally.

Role-Play #2

The conference organizing committee sits down to discuss adopting this proposal.

Committee Members	Group
Member 1: a well-established researcher from somewhere in central Europe who has avoided flying for over 10 years and firmly believes strong action is required. This researcher works in climate modelling and uses a lot of supercomputer resources.	Lucy, Alina, Ibolya
Member 2: a researcher from Eastern Europe who finds travel difficult due to a disability and prefers to attend by zoom. They also have colleagues who anyways find it difficult to travel sustainably compared to those from Central Europe.	Alyx, Sarah, Carmen, Rami
Member 3: a junior researcher from North America who does remote fieldwork, who feels that this penalizes them, and should then not just include transportation emissions, but also, emissions from other research activities (e.g., model runs).	Toni, Eva, Alicja
Member 4: a researcher from Brazil (which has significant reserves of the rare earth minerals necessary for the renewable transition) that already lacks the funds to fly to conferences and has not managed to secure additional funding through a scholarship.	Mareike, Asli, Prashamsa
Chair of the Committee (Moderator)	Tara, Divanshu, Marlene

This is a very current topic ... additional resources:

- ESRAH hosts a working group on "Academic travel": [Academic Travel : Earth and Society Research Hub \(ESRAH\) : University of Hamburg](#)
- Prof. Dr. Simone Rödder is involved & has DFG project on the topic: [Scientific Reputation Revisited: Academic Travel and Conference Interaction : Sociology of Science ...](#)
- Climaction: [LOCEAN climactions - Groupe de travail IPSL climactions](#)
- University guidelines



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Homework # 9

Homework # 9

Homework #9a: Meet with your group to prepare for role-play (June 18th). Identify your stance, core arguments and speaker.

Homework #9b: Continue with poster session organization. Reminder of schedule on the right.

Homework #9c: Finalize your poster design (also further time and poster clinic in two weeks).

Poster session organization schedule

JUNE						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Book Event Venue(s) Technical	2 Ads Finalized Ad Team	3	4	5	6	7
8 Ads Shared Ad Team	9 Submit Final Poster Abstracts EOD	10 Submit Poster Session Conflicts to Scientific EOD	11 Draft Feedbacks ----- Protest TODAY	12 Start Prof. Time Slot Determination Scientific	13	14
15	16 Share Time Slots with Class Scientific	17	18 Organization for Poster Session (Add layout workshop?)	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Poster Clinic	26 Confirms Food/Drinks On-Site	27 Finalize "Day of Tasks" On-Site & Scientific	28 Submit Final Posters EOD
29 Print Posters Scientific & Technical	30					

Poster: Updated Timeline

Task	until
Class: Introduction to poster tasks and grading (Lars)	23.04.26
Homework: Post first ideas for a poster on the blog (100-200 words)	30.04.26
Class: Input on poster design (Kat); Starting organisation of self-organized poster session (Kat)	30.04.26
Homework: Comment on the blog on one poster idea (50-100 words)	14.05.26
Homework: Post proposal for your poster topic including references (300-400 words)	21.05.26
Class: Peer-peer feedback session; Poster session organization (Lars and Kat)	21.05.26
Q&A poster task	28.05.26
Homework: prepare first version of poster (digital and A4 printout)	11.06.26
Class: Poster drafts feedback - speed dating	11.06.26
Time for students to prepare poster session	18.06.26
Poster clinic; Time for students to prepare poster session	25.06.26
Poster Session practice session and event	02.07.26, 09.07.26
CLICCS Retreat: Presentation of awarded posters	30.09.-02.10.26

Updated preliminary session plan

09.04.	Introduction to the course (L. Kutzbach); Introduction to the course blog (J. Behrens); Introduction to <i>Climate Futures</i> (L. Kutzbach)
16.04.	Mapping natural and societal dynamics constituting climate futures (A. Oberg);
23.04.	Introduction to poster task and grading criteria; poster session task (L. Kutzbach); Input on <i>Epistemic Pluralism in Climate Science</i> (K. Linscott et al.); Input on <i>Transformative Science</i> (M. Brüggemann)
30.04.	<i>Mathematical perspectives on climate futures</i> (J. Behrens); Introduction to poster design and starting organisation of poster session task (K. Linscott)
07.05.	<i>Can we predict climate?</i> (Johanna Baehr); 1 st role-play on <i>epistemic plurality and transformative science in CLICSS</i> (students)
21.05.	Peer-peer feedback session; Poster session organization (K. Linscott and L. Kutzbach)
28.05.	<i>Communicating climate futures</i> (Michael Brüggemann); Q&A poster task
04.06.	<i>Narrative-based near-term prediction of climate futures</i> (Leo Borchert); discussion on desired futures
11.06.	Poster drafts feedback - speed dating
18.06.	Organisation of poster session; 2nd role-play (students)
25.06.	Poster clinic; preparation of poster session
02.07.	Poster presentation practice session
09.07.	Poster Session event (10:00-15:00)
16.07.	Feedback and Conclusions (students and lecturers)