

La soutenance de mémoire de Master en sciences sociales
- *pilier anthropologie* - de

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ENCOUNTERING REVOCATION (B)ORDERS

*A case study on the mobilization of social assistance and
of 'integration' as interior (b)ordering*

aura lieu le

4 février 2019 à 13h30

A.-L. Breguet 1 (bâtiment MAPS), salle -010 (rez inférieur)

Directrice de mémoire : Christin Achermann

Experte : Stefanie Kurt

Over recent years, scholarly attention has increasingly focused on processes of (b)ordering in order to shed light on the complex and multiple forms in which borders, both materially and semiotically, are constantly (re)drawn and deterritorialized. Although these investigations have helped considerably in reshaping our understanding of governing (im)migration, processes of internalization concerned with people having obtained a regular stay permit are treated rather marginally. Focusing on the revocation of stay permits and the connected mobilization of 'integration' helps to shed light on such an 'interior (b)ordering'.

This master's dissertation scrutinizes case-files concerned with one specific legal 'integration' requirement in Switzerland: (in-)dependency on social assistance. I analyze six case-files where a (permanent) residency permit was revoked by the respective administrative office due to such a 'dependency' on social assistance. I illuminate the consequent encounter with revocation (b)orders by scrutinizing the case-making and thereby point to the historic contingency and constructedness of legal requirements and their complex translation into practice. Methodologically focusing on a material-semiotic approach, I argue that a (b)ordering perspective helps to comprehend mundane practices of administrative and legal actors while locating them within larger fields of power inequalities. Conceptually, this investigation illuminates how borders manifest continuously in the daily lives of so-called 'foreign nationals' through the mobilization of 'integration' and points to broader aspects and consequences, as well as at the importance of rethinking these processes in terms of governing social cohesion instead of governing (im)migration.