

16.01.

18:15–19:45 Uhr
HS 13
(Forum 7)

ifeas

Institut für
Ethnologie und
Afrikastudien

2024

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***Utu* as epistemology and conviviality in Kiswahili culture: anthropological linguistic perspectives on living together**

Anthropological linguistics is essentially concerned with language in/as cultural practices as they emerge and change through humans living in communities. Yet the aspect of living together itself has rarely been explicitly addressed from anthropological-linguistic perspectives. In our contribution, we aim to explore the concept of *utu* ("humanity") in Kiswahili by looking at linguistic practices in different domains. To show that *utu* can be regarded as an epistemology and a way of knowing and mastering living together as humans, we will look at language in *unyago* (coming-of-age rituals), proverbs and sayings but also at grammatical features of Kiswahili. This chapter thus investigates concepts of humanity at the intersection of language and culture.

Agnes Brühwiler is a PhD student and Swahili lecturer at the University of Cologne. She works on the research project "[On language, ritualisation and gender](#)".

Weitere Informationen: www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de

Institutskolloquium Wintersemester 2023/24

Leitung: Nico Nassenstein