

Preliminary Program and Announcement

International Workshop 12. - 14. October 2016 (3 ECTS)

Environmental context of human evolution and dispersal

The workshop is designed to bring together international experts and advanced graduate students from different disciplines to discuss the geological frame and the environmental changes that took place concurrent with human evolution. Our keynote speakers will provide a brief general overview and then discuss their latest research results in context. Participants will gain a general understanding of the early evolution of humans and their animals in East Africa, and learn basic principles of how to relate landscape, environment and geology to the evolution of life. The field trip will take everyone to the oldest archaeological sites in southern Germany.

Wednesday, October 12th, 9:00 - 16:00 - Geology and Paleoanthropology

Introduction and overview – Dr. Simon Kübler

Prof. Dr. Frank Brown (University of Utah, USA) *"Geological history of the Turkana basin (Northern Kenya), and its relevance to the timing and ecology of human ancestors"*

Prof. Dr. Geoffrey C. P. King (IPG Paris, France, and LMU Humboldt Fellow) *"Complex landscapes and soil edaphics as controls on animal migrations and the evolution of the Homo body form"*

Dr. Simon Kübler (LMU Geology) *"Edaphics, tectonics and animal movements in the Kenya Rift: implications for strategic use of the landscape by early hominins"*

Prof. Dr. Geoff Bailey (University of York, Great Britain) *"Sea-level change, submerged landscapes and the role of coastlines in human dispersal — an archaeological perspective"*

Open discussion

Thursday, October 13th - Geology and Anthropology

Prof. Dr. Gisela Grupe (LMU Anthropology) — TBA

N.N., Archaeology of southern Germany

Overview of the geological setting of southern Germany

Afternoon: Field trip to archaeological and geological highlights of the Swabian Alb

Lonetal, Archäopark Vogelherd

Friday, October 14th

Stone age caves and their environmental context at the south rim of the Swabian Alb

Return to Munich in the evening of October 14th.

Student participants, who will take the course for credits will be asked to participate actively in all aspects of the course, take notes and prepare a term paper. The maximum number of participants for the field trip is **15!**

Please sign up for the workshop until October 5th

Contact: Dr. Ursula Münster: ursula.muenster@rcc.lmu.de