

Prof. Dr. Matthias Gross

Curriculum Vitae (06/2026)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Urban & Environmental Sociology
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DEGREES

Habilitation, Sociology, Martin Luther University of Halle, Germany, November 2008.

Dr. rer. soc. (~ PhD), Sociology, Bielefeld University, June 2001.

Diplom (~ MA), Sociology, Bielefeld University, January 1998.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Since Fall 2013: Full professor at the Institute of Sociology, University of Jena, joint appointment with the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig; since January 2014 Head of UFZ's Department of Urban and Environmental Sociology.

April 2005 – September 2013: Senior Research Scientist (granted tenure in 2009) at Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Germany; Since 2008 Deputy Head of UFZ's Department of Urban and Environmental Sociology.

April to September 2012: Professor (interim) of Economic and Environmental Sociology at Martin Luther University of Halle.

April 2002 – March 2005: Co-Director of Junior Research Group on “Real World Experiments,” Bielefeld University, funded by the *Volkswagen Foundation*.

August 2003 – December 2003 (fall term): Visiting Assistant Professor (research & teaching), Department of Sociology, Loyola University Chicago, USA.

July 2001 – March 2002: Post-doctoral Fellow of the German Research Foundation (DFG), Institute for Science and Technology Studies (IWT), Universität Bielefeld.

February 2000 – July 2000 (spring term): DAAD-Doctoral Fellow at the Department of Rural Sociology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA.

January 1998 – June 2001: Doctoral Student, until March 1999 as assistant at the Faculty of Sociology, then as a fellow of the German Research Foundation (DFG), Institute for Science and Technology Studies (IWT), Universität Bielefeld.

CURRENT AREAS OF RESEARCH AND SPECIALIZATION (in alphabetical order)

Cultural Sociology; Ecological Restoration and Design; Historical Sociology; Ignorance, Nonknowledge and Risk; Mobility and Culture; Nature-Culture Relations; Real World Experiments; Renewable Energy Systems; Senses & Society; Social Theory; Technology in Society; Theories of Sustainability and Transformation.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS: MONOGRAPHS

Gross, Matthias & Rüdiger Mautz (2015): *Renewable Energies*. London: Routledge (Key Ideas Series). Reviewed e.g. in *Technikfolgenabschätzung: Theorie & Praxis (TATuP)*. Translated into the Persian (2017).

Groß, Matthias (2014): *Experimentelles Nichtwissen: Umweltinnovationen und die Grenzen sozial-ökologischer Resilienz*. Bielefeld: transcript (Science Studies Series).

Gross, Matthias (2010): *Ignorance and Surprise: Science, Society, and Ecological Design*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press (Inside Technology Series). Reviewed e.g. in *Choice, Building Research & Information, International Social Science Review, Metascience, Science as Culture, Sawari, & Tecnoscienza: Italian Journal of Science & Technology Studies*.

Groß, Matthias (2006): *Natur*. Bielefeld: transcript [Introductory textbook in the *Reihe Einsichten: Themen der Soziologie*]. Reviewed e.g. in *Berliner Debatte Initial, Internationales Jahrbuch für Philosophische Anthropologie, & Soziologische Revue*.

Groß, Matthias, Holger Hoffmann-Riem & Wolfgang Krohn (2005): *Realexperimente: Ökologische Gestaltungsprozesse in der Wissensgesellschaft*. Bielefeld: transcript. Reviewed e.g. in *Politische Ökologie, Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung, & International Sociology*.

Gross, Matthias (2003): *Inventing Nature: Ecological Restoration by Public Experiments*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield/Lexington Books. Revised Doctoral Dissertation from 2001, reviewed e.g. in *Contemporary Sociology, Ecological Restoration, Environmental Ethics, Sociologia*.

Groß, Matthias (2001): *Die Natur der Gesellschaft: Eine Geschichte der Umweltsoziologie*. Weinheim: Juventa Verlag. Fundamentally revised and enlarged Diploma thesis from 1997.

BOOKS: EDITED VOLUMES

Telesiene, Audrone; Matthias Gross & Markus Hadler, eds. (2026): *Green European Revisited: Environmental Behaviour and Attitudes in Europe in the Face of the Polycrisis*. London: Palgrave Macmillan. Book based on current data from the *International Social Survey Programme (ISSP)*.

Sonnberger, Marco; Alena Bleicher & Matthias Groß, eds. (2024): *Handbuch Umweltsoziologie, second edition*, fully revised with now 62 entries. Wiesbaden: Springer (incl. co-authored intro).

Gross, Matthias & Linsey McGoey, eds. (2023, fully revised new edition [first edition 2015; paperback 2017], new paperback 2024): *Routledge International Handbook of Ignorance Studies*. London: Routledge (incl. an all new co-authored introduction). First edition discussed e.g. in *The New York Times, The Washington Post*, and several popular and academic outlets.

Davidson, Debra & Matthias Gross, eds. (2018): *Oxford Handbook of Energy and Society*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (including a co-authored introduction, conclusion and section intros). Reviewed e.g. in *Choice* and *Contemporary Sociology*.

Telesiene, Audrone & Matthias Gross, eds. (2017): *Green European: Environmental Behaviour and Attitudes in Europe in a Historical and Cross-Cultural Comparative Perspective*. London: Routledge (including a co-authored introduction).

Bösch, Stefan; Matthias Groß & Wolfgang Krohn, eds. (2017): *Experimentelle Gesellschaft: Das Experiment als wissenschaftsgesellschaftliches Dispositiv*. Baden-Baden: Nomos Verlag (including a co-authored introduction). Reviewed e.g. in *Technikfolgenabschätzung: Theorie & Praxis (TATuP)*.

Groß, Matthias, ed. (2011): *Handbuch Umweltsoziologie*. Wiesbaden: VS Verlag (incl. an intro chapter and two co-authored articles). Reviewed in *Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie*.

Gross, Matthias & Harald Heinrichs, eds. (2010): *Environmental Sociology: European Perspectives and Interdisciplinary Challenges*. Dordrecht: Springer (incl. co-authored introduction, research article & coda chapter). Reviewed in *Jn. for Technology Assessment in Theory & Practice (TATuP)*.

JOURNAL AND BOOK SERIES EDITORSHIPS (SELECTION)

2005 – Indefinite: Editor of *Nature + Culture* (Publisher: Berghahn, NY). Listed e.g. in Scopus and the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI).

2017 – Indefinite: Coordinating Editor of *Restoration Ecology* (Publisher: Wiley, NY). Listed in Scopus and the Sciences Citation Index (SCI).

2014 – Indefinite: Founding Book Series Editor in *Environmental Sociology* (“Umweltsoziologie”) with Nomos Verlag, Baden-Baden, Germany.

2016 – Indefinite: Founding Book Series Editor in *Research in Ignorance Studies*. London: Routledge.

2014: *Transdisciplinary Environmental Science*. Special issue of *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*, Vol. 35 (4): 299-398. Guest Editor together with Michael Stauffacher.

2022: *Institutionalised Ignorance*. Special Issue in *Science as Culture*, Vol. 31 (4): 419-554. Guest Editor together with Samantha Vanderslott and Katharina Paul.

2026: *Real World Labs versus (Planetary) Solutions: Experimental Possibilities in and around Digital Laboratories* (working title). Special Issue in *Nature + Culture*, Vol. 21, No. 3. Guest editor with Danny Otto.

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND ESSAYS (* Web of Science/Clarivate-Listed Article)

*Gross, Matthias (2026): “Waves of Disciplinary Convergences and Divergences: Ecology as an Underlying Concept Between Sociology and Science & Technology Studies (STS).” *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews* 51 (4), forthcoming in October.

*Otto, Danny and Matthias Gross (2026): “Real World Labs versus Planetary Solutions: An Introduction.” *Nature + Culture* 21(3).

*Gross, Matthias (2026): “From Natural Experiments to Sustainability Solutions: Against the “Laboratorization” of Everything.” *Nature + Culture* 21(3).

Groß, Matthias (2026): “Fruchtbare Gemengelagen: Die Umweltsoziologie mit epistemisch-methodischen Neuerungen auf wankendem ökologischem Boden” (Review Essay). *Soziologische Revue* 49 (1): 3-24, DOI: 10.1515/srsr-2025-2057.

Groß, Matthias (2025): "Energiewenden zwischen Mythos und Möglichkeit" (Review Essay). *Soziopolis: Gesellschaft beobachten*. <https://www.sozio.polis.de/energiewenden-zwischen-mythos-und-moeglichkeit.html> (July 8).

*Sonnberger, Marco; Maria Pfeiffer, and Matthias Gross (2024): "Who Owns the Wind? Understanding Wind Energy Production through a Property Chains Perspective." *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space* 7 (6): 2466-2480. DOI: 10.1177/25148486241282544

*Sonnberger, Marco; Maria Pfeiffer, Alena Bleicher, and Matthias Gross (2024): "Wake Effects and Temperature Plumes: Coping with Non-Knowledge in the Expansion of Wind and Geothermal Energy." *Social Studies of Science* 54 (6): 859-882. DOI: 10.1177/03063127241246551.

*Gross, Matthias (2023): "Car Driving as Inverted Quarantine and the Sensory Response to Collective Threats: Challenges for Public Transport." *The Senses and Society* 18 (3): 241-253, DOI: 10.1080/17458927.2023.2197684.

*Paul, Katharina T.; Samantha Vanderslott, and Matthias Gross (2022): "Institutionalised Ignorance in Policy and Regulation." *Science as Culture* 31 (4): 419-432. DOI: 10.1080/09505431.2022.2143343.

*Paasche, Hendrik; Matthias Gross, Jakob Lüttgau, David S. Greenberg, and Tobias Weigel (2022): "To the Brave Scientists: Aren't We Strong Enough to Stand (and Profit from) Uncertainty in Earth System Measurement and Modelling?" *Geoscience Data Journal* 9 (2): 393-399. DOI: 10.1002/gdj3.132.

*Gross, Matthias and Marco Sonnberger (2022): "Making the Most of Failure and Uncertainty: Welcome Surprises and Contingency in Energy Transition Research." *Energies* 15: 6649. <https://doi.org/10.3390/en15186649>

*Otto, Danny; Marit Sprenkeling, Ruben Peuchen, Åsta Dyrnes Nordø, Dimitrios Mendrinou, Spyridon Karytsas, Siri Veland, Olympia Polyzou, Martha Økland Lien, Yngve Heggelund, Matthias Gross, Pim Piek & Hanneke Puts (2022): "On the Organisation of Translation: An Inter- and Transdisciplinary Approach to Developing Design Options for CO2 Storage Monitoring Systems." *Energies* 15: 5678. DOI: 10.3390/en15155678.

*Horta, Ana and Matthias Gross (2022): "Human-Dog-Relations under the Microscope: Networks of Walking and Socializing." *Análise Social* 243, LVII (2.^o): 368-385. DOI: 10.31447/as00032573.2022243.08.

*Mendrinou, Dimitrios; Spyridon Karytsas, Olympia Polyzou, Constantine Karytsas, Åsta D. Nordø, Kirsti Midttømme, Danny Otto, Matthias Gross, Marit Sprenkeling, Ruben Peuchen, Tara Geerdink & Hanneke Puts (2022): "Understanding Societal Requirements of CCS Projects: Application of the Societal Embeddedness Level Assessment Methodology in Four National Case Studies." *Clean Technologies* 4(4): 893-907. DOI: 10.3390/cleantechnol4040055.

*Otto, Danny; Maria Pfeiffer, Mariana de Brito, and Matthias Gross (2022): "Fixed Amidst Change: 20 Years of Media Coverage on Carbon Capture and Storage in Germany." *Sustainability* 14 (12): 7342. DOI: 10.3390/su14127342.

- *Horn, Daniel; Matthias Gross, Maria Pfeiffer, and Marco Sonnberger (2022): "How Far is Far Enough? The Social Constitution of Geothermal Energy through Spacing Regulations." *Sustainability* 14 (1): 496. DOI: 10.3390/su14010496.
- *Otto, Danny and Matthias Gross (2021): "Stuck on Coal and Persuasion? A Critical Review of Carbon Capture and Storage Communication." *Energy Research & Social Science* 82: 102306.
- *Lehmann, Paul; Silke Beck, Mariana de Brito, Erik Gawel, Matthias Gross, Annegret Haase, Robert Lepenies, Danny Otto, Johannes Schiller, Sebastian Strunz, and Daniela Thrän (2021): "Environmental Sustainability Post-COVID-19: Scrutinizing Popular Hypotheses from a Social Science Perspective." *Sustainability* 13 (16): 8679. DOI: 10.3390/su13168679.
- Gross, Matthias (2021): "The Largest Possible Experiment: The Corona Pandemic as Nonknowledge Transfer." *The European Sociologist* 46 (2): <https://europeansociology.org/european-sociologist/issue/46/discussion/fe72fec8-ea0b-4089-a610-1eae552ed78c>.
- Henkel, Anna; Thomas Barth, Jens Köhrsen, Björn Wendt, Cristina Besio, Katharina Block, Stefan Böschen, Sascha Dickel, Benjamin Görge, Matthias Groß, Simone Rödder & Thomas Pfister (2021): "Intransparente Beliebigkeit oder produktive Vielfalt? Konturen einer Soziologie der Nachhaltigkeit." *Leviathan* 49 (2): 224-230.
- *Lehmann, Paul; Mariana de Brito, Erik Gawel, Matthias Gross, Annegret Haase, Robert Lepenies, Danny Otto, Johannes Schiller, Sebastian Strunz & Daniela Thrän (2021): "Making the COVID-19 Crisis a Real Opportunity for Environmental Sustainability." *Sustainability Science* 16: 2137-2145.
- *Gross, Matthias (2020): "Speed Tourism: The German Autobahn as a Tourist Destination and Location of 'Unruly Rules'." *Tourist Studies* 20 (3): 298-313.
Press coverage: *Hospodářské Noviny* (Czech Republic, January 18-20, 2022, including full length interview), *Der Spiegel* (Germany, January 26, 2022), *Deutsche Welle* (May 2023).
- *Gross, Matthias & Marco Sonnberger (2020): "How the Diesel Engine became a 'Dirty' Actant: Compression Ignitions and Actor Networks of Blame." *Energy Research & Social Science* 61: Article 101359.
- *Gross, Matthias (2019): "Not Knowing as Luxury: Strategic Nonknowledge and the Demand for a 'Sportbrake'." *Luxury: History, Culture, Consumption* 6 (1): 63-81.
- *Gross, Matthias (2019): "The Paradox of the Unexpected: Normal Surprises and Living with Nonknowledge." *Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development* 61 (3): 20-25.
- *David, Martin & Matthias Gross (2019): "Futurizing Politics and the Sustainability of Real-world Experiments: What Role for Innovation and Exnovation in the German Energy Transition?" *Sustainability Science* 14 (4): 991-1000.
- *Gross, Matthias & Nona Schulte-Römer (2019): "Remaking Participatory Democracy through Experimental Design" (Review Essay). *Science, Technology & Human Values* 44 (4): 707-718.
- *Sonnberger, Marco & Matthias Gross (2018): "Rebound Effects in Practice: An Invitation to Consider Rebound From a Practice Theory Perspective." *Ecological Economics* 154: 14-21.

*Meller, Carola; Eva Schill, Judith Bremer, Olaf Kolditz, Alena Bleicher, Christina Benighaus, Philippe Chavot, Anna Pellizzone, Ortwin Renn, Matthias Gross, Frank Schilling & Thomas Kohl (2018): "Acceptability of Geothermal Installations: A Geoethical Concept for GeoLaB." *Geothermics* 73 (March): 133-145.

*Gross, Matthias & Manuel Tironi (2017): "Experimentando con la tierra: Geotermia, no-conocimiento y transiciones energéticas como experimentos a la intemperie." *Revista Internacional de Sociología* 75 (4): e079.

*Gross, Matthias (2016): "Risk as Zombie Category: Ulrich Beck's Unfinished Project of the Non-knowledge Society." *Security Dialogue* 47 (5): 386-402. Top 25% of all research outputs scored by *Altmetric*.

*Bleicher, Alena & Matthias Gross (2016): "Geothermal Heat Pumps and the Vagaries of Subterranean Geology: Energy Independence at a Household Level as a Real World Experiment." *Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews* 64: 279-288.

*Gross, Matthias (2016): "Give me an Experiment and I will raise a Laboratory." *Science, Technology & Human Values* 41 (4): 613-634. Top 25% of all research outputs scored by *Altmetric*.

*Gross, Matthias (2016): "On the Invisibility of Epochal Breaks and the Virtues of Useless Science" (Review Essay). *Public Understanding of Science* 25 (1): 126-128.

Gross, Matthias (2015): "Natural Waste: Canine Companions and the Lure of Inattentively Pooping in Public." *Environmental Sociology* 1 (1): 38-47.

Press coverage (selection): *La Stampa* (Italy, April 10, 2015), *Discover Magazine* (US, April 16, 2015), *The Times* (UK, April 18, 2015), *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger* (Germany, April 27, 2015), *Le Monde* (France, April 28, 2015), *Sciences et Avenir* (France, May 10, 2015), *The Guardian* (UK, June 5, 2022), *The Atlantic* (US, July 26, 2023) as well as opinion pieces in *The Washington Post* (US, April 9, 2015 and again on April 27, 2016). Article is listed in the top 5% of research scored by *Altmetric*. Partial reprint in *Harper's Magazine* (August 2015) under the title "Doctoral Feces."

Gross, Matthias (2015): "Experiments beyond the Laboratory." *Chemistry World* 12 (11): 39.

Online at: www.chemistryworld.com/opinion/experiments-beyond-the-laboratory/9078.article

*Gross, Matthias (2015): "Journeying to the Heat of the Earth: From Jules Verne to Present-Day Geothermal Adventures." *Engineering Studies* 7 (1): 28-46. Selected as Editor's Choice article commemorating the 10th anniversary of *Engineering Studies* in 2018.

*Bleicher, Alena & Matthias Gross (2015): "User Motivation, Energy Prosumers and Regional Diversity: Sociological Notes on using Shallow Geothermal Energy." *Geothermal Energy* 3 (1): 1-12, [art 12].

*Gross, Matthias (2015): "Self-Knowledge, Gender Roles, and the Making of the Secret Gospels: A Chapter in the Sociology of Nonknowledge." *Journal of Historical Sociology* 28 (2): 195-212.

*Gross, Matthias & Michael Stauffacher (2014): "Transdisciplinary Environmental Science: Problem-oriented Projects and Strategic Research Programs." *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews* 35 (4): 299-306.

*Gross, Matthias (2013): "Old Science Fiction, New Inspiration: Communicating Unknowns in the Utilization of Geothermal Energy." *Science Communication* 35 (6): 810-818.

*Gross, Matthias & Alena Bleicher (2013): "'It's Always Dark in Front of the Pickaxe': Organizing Ignorance in the Long Term Remediation of Contaminated Land." *Time & Society* 22 (3): 316-334.

*Schädler, Sebastian, Michael Finkel, Alena Bleicher, Maximilian Morio, & Matthias Gross (2013): "Spatially Explicit Computation of Sustainability Indicator Values for the Automated Assessment of Land-Use Options." *Landscape & Urban Planning* 111: 34-45.

*Gross, Matthias (2012): "'Objective Culture' and the Development of Nonknowledge: Georg Simmel and the Reverse Side of Knowing." *Cultural Sociology* 6 (4): 422-437.

Winner of the 2013 Sage Prize for Innovation and Excellence of the *British Sociological Association* (BSA). Top 25% of all research outputs scored by *Altmetric*.

*Gross, Matthias (2012): "Rough Roads to Sustainability" (Review Essay). *Science as Culture* 21 (3): 421-428.

*Gross, Matthias (2011): "Democratizing Scientific Uncertainty" (Review Essay). *Public Understanding of Science* 20 (6): 863-864.

Gross, Matthias (2011): "Welcome Frustrations with the Climate: Comment on Redclift." *International Review of Social Research* 1 (3): 183-187.

*Gross, Matthias (2010): "Ignorance, Research and Decisions about Abandoned Opencast Coal Mines." *Science & Public Policy* 37 (2): 125-134.

Gross, Matthias (2010): "The Public Proceduralization of Contingency: Bruno Latour and the Formation of Collective Experiments." *Social Epistemology* 24 (1): 63-74.

*Bleicher, Alena & Matthias Gross (2010): "Sustainability Assessment and the Revitalization of Contaminated Sites: Operationalizing Sustainable Development for Local Problems." *The International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology* 17 (1): 57-66.

*Gross, Matthias (2009): "Collaborative Experiments: Jane Addams, Hull-House, and Experimental Social Work." *Social Science Information* 48 (1): 81-95.

2010. Included in: Student Study Material for *The Handbook of Social Work Research Methods* (2nd edition, Sage) edited by Bruce Thyer, Chapter 27 on "Historical Research."

Bleicher, Alena; Martin Bittens & Matthias Groß (2009): "'Keiner weiß genau was da unten ist': Vom erfolgreichen Umgang mit Nichtwissen in Sanierungsprojekten." *Altlasten Spektrum* 18 (3): 136-141.

*Elvers, Horst-Dietrich, Matthias Gross, & Harald Heinrichs (2008): "The Diversity of Environmental Justice: Towards a European Approach." *European Societies* 10 (5): 835-856.

*Gross, Matthias (2008): "Population Decline and the New Nature: Towards Experimental 'Refactoring' in Landscape Development of Post-industrial Regions." *Futures* 40 (5): 451-459.

*Groß, Matthias (2008): "Georg Simmel und die 'laute Pracht des wissenschaftlich-technischen Zeitalters'." *Historical Social Research - Historische Sozialforschung* 33 (2): 315-330.

- *Gross, Matthias (2008): "Return of the Wolf: Ecological Restoration and the Deliberate Inclusion of the Unexpected." *Environmental Politics* 17 (1): 115-120.
- *Gross, Matthias (2007): "The Unknown in Process: Dynamic Connections of Ignorance, Non-Knowledge and Related Concepts." *Current Sociology* 55 (5): 742-759.
- *(2008): Russian Translation in *Sotsiologicheskie Issledovaniya* 3: 13-22 as "НЕИЗВЕСТНОЕ. ДИНАМИКА СВЯЗЕЙ НЕВЕДЕНИЯ, НЕЗНАНИЯ И СХОДНЫХ ПОНЯТИЙ."
- *Gross, Matthias (2007): "Restoration and the Origins of Ecology." *Restoration Ecology* 15 (3): 375-376.
- *Gross, Matthias (2007): "Communicating Ignorance and the Development of Post-Mining Landscapes." *Science Communication* 29 (2): 264-270.
- *Weinstein, Michael; Ronald Baird, David Conover, Matthias Gross, Jozef Keulartz, David Loomis, Zev Naveh, Susan Peterson, Denise Reed, Emery Roe, Lawrence Swanson, Jac Swart, John Teal, Eugene Turner & Henny van der Windt (2007): "Managing Coastal Resources in the 21st Century." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 5 (1): 43-48.
- Gross, Matthias (2007): "Wenn das Nichtwissen rekursiv überrascht, wird die Welt zum Experiment. Oder: Aus Schaden wird man klug." *Erwägen, Wissen, Ethik (EWE)* 18 (3): 373-375.
- Gross, Matthias (2006): "Beyond Expertise: Ecological Science and the Making of Socially Robust Restoration Strategies." *Journal for Nature Conservation* 14 (3/4): 172-179.
- *Gross, Matthias & Holger Hoffmann-Riem (2005): "Ecological Restoration as a Real-World Experiment: Designing Robust Implementation Strategies in an Urban Environment." *Public Understanding of Science* 14 (3): 269-284.
- *Gross, Matthias & Wolfgang Krohn (2005): "Society as Experiment: Sociological Foundations for a Self-experimental Society." *History of the Human Sciences* 18 (2): 63-86.
- *Gross, Matthias (2005): "Technology Development as Innovative Crisis: Georg Simmel's Reflections on Modern Science and Technology." *Perspectives on Global Development and Technology* 4 (1): 45-61.
- *Gross, Matthias & Wolfgang Krohn (2004): "Science in a Real World Context: Constructing Knowledge through Recursive Learning." *Philosophy Today* 48 (5): 38-50.
- *Gross, Matthias (2004): "Human Geography and Ecological Sociology: The Unfolding of a Human Ecology, 1890 to 1930 – and Beyond." *Social Science History* 28 (4): 575-605.
- Gross, Matthias (2004): "A Unique American Sociology or an Americanized European Sociology? Some Thoughts on Georg Simmel's Influence on Edward A. Ross." *Simmel Studies* 14 (2): 195-222.
- Gross, Matthias (2003): "Sociologists of the Unexpected: Edward A. Ross and Georg Simmel on the Unintended Consequences of Modernity." *The American Sociologist* 34 (4): 40-58.
- *Groß, Matthias; Holger Hoffmann-Riem & Wolfgang Krohn (2003): "Realexperimente: Robustheit und Dynamik ökologischer Gestaltungen in der Wissensgesellschaft." *Soziale Welt* 54 (3): 241-258.

*Gross, Matthias (2003): "Caught Between the Nature/Society Divide: Environmental History at a Crossroads." *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* 25 (1): 93-107.

Gross, Matthias (2002): "New Natures and Old Science: Hands-on Practice and Academic Research in Ecological Restoration." *Science Studies* 15 (2): 17-35.

*Gross, Matthias (2002): "When Ecology and Sociology Meet: The Contributions of Edward A. Ross." *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 38 (1): 27-42.

Brown, Mark B. & Matthias Groß (2002): "Eine neue Gesellschaft? Von Kollektiven, Assoziationen und der Repräsentation des Nicht-Menschlichen" (Review Essay). *Soziologische Revue* 25 (4): 380-394.

Gross, Matthias (2001): "Unexpected Interactions: Georg Simmel and the Observation of Nature." *Journal of Classical Sociology* 1 (3): 395-414.

(2013): Reprinted in: Barry Smart, Kay Peggs, & Joseph Burridge, eds. *Observation Methods, Vol. 1; SAGE Benchmarks in Social Research Methods* (pp. 195-212). London: Sage.

Gross, Matthias (2001): "Urban Nature, Modern Society and the Marginal Man: Robert E. Park and Georg Simmel in Discussion." *Simmel Studies* 11 (2): 235-253.

Gross, Matthias (2001): "From Prairie to Planet: Global Processes and Ecological Restoration." *The Journal of International and Area Studies* 8 (1): 57-71.

Gross, Matthias (2000): "Classical Sociology and the Restoration of Nature: The Relevance of Émile Durkheim and Georg Simmel." *Organization & Environment* 13 (3): 277-291.

(2005): Reprinted in: David Inglis, John Bone & Rhoda Wilkie, eds. *Nature – Critical Concepts in the Social Sciences, Vol. 4: Reconfiguring the Social/Natural Interface* (pp. 236-253). London: Routledge.

Gross, Matthias (1999): "Early Environmental Sociology: American Classics and their Reflections on Nature." *Humboldt Journal of Social Relations* 25 (1): 1-29.

SELECTION OF REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Gross, Matthias (2026): "Ellen Swallow Richards: Mother of Environmental Sociology." In: Soneryd, Linda; Monika Berg, Magnus Boström and Karin Gustafsson (eds.), *Environmental Sociology in Academia and Society*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Groß, Matthias (2026): "Energetische Soziologie: Historische Grundlagen und konzeptuelle Einordnungen." In: Lars Holstenkamp, Franziska Mey, Pia Laborgne & Jörg Radtke (eds.), *Handbuch Energiewende & Partizipation, 2nd Edition* (fundamentally revised and rewritten version from 2018).

Groß, Matthias (2026): "Nichtwissen im Anthropozän." In: Treiber, Angela (ed.), *Jahrbuch für Europäische Ethnologie 2025: Mensch-Umwelt-Beziehungen im Anthropozän: Theorien - Konzepte – Alltage*. Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill.

Telesiene, Audrone; Matthias Gross & Markus Hadler (2026): "The Green European and the Age of Polycrisis: An Introduction," In: Telesiene/Gross/Hadler (eds.): *Green European Revisited: Environmental Behaviour and Attitudes in Europe in the Face of the Polycrisis* (pp. 1-22). London: Palgrave Macmillan.

- Bösch, Stefan & Matthias Groß (2026): "Reallabore: Zur Expansion und Begrenzung realexperimenteller Praktiken in Wissensgesellschaften." In: Anne K. Krüger, Cornelius Schubert, Julia Schubert & Jan-Felix Schrape (eds.), *Wissenschafts- und Technikforschung: Eine Einführung in zentrale Konzepte und aktuelle Forschungsperspektiven* (pp. 13-28). Berlin: De Gruyter. DOI: 10.1515/9783112233456-001
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Gross, Matthias (2006): "Kollektive Experimente im gesellschaftlichen Labor: Bruno Latours tastende Neuordnung des Sozialen," in Voss, Martin & Birgit Peuker (eds.), *Verschwindet die Natur? Die Akteur-Netzwerk-Theorie in der umweltsoziologischen Diskussion* (pp. 165-181). Bielefeld: Transcript.

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Hoffmann-Riem, Holger & Matthias Groß (2006): "Interdisziplinarität als Realexperiment: Rekursives Lernen in der Umweltforschung," in Glaeser, Bernhard (ed.), *Fachübergreifende Nachhaltigkeitsforschung* (pp. 81-108). München: Ökom.

Gross, Matthias (2006): "Nature," in Harrington, Austin; Barbara L. Marshall, & Hans-Peter Müller (eds.), *Encyclopedia of Social Theory* (pp. 391-392). London: Routledge.

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Heinrichs, Harald; Agyeman, Julian & Matthias Groß (2004): "Die Umweltsoziologie und das Thema der sozial-ökologischen Ungleichheit," in Gabriele Bolte & Andreas Mielck (eds.), *Umweltgerechtigkeit: Die soziale Verteilung von Umweltbelastungen* (41-67). Weinheim: Juventa.

BOOK REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS (* Web of Science/Clarivate-Listed Article)

In (selection): **Canadian Journal of Sociology* (2011), **Contemporary Sociology* (2003, 2007, 2009, 2012), *Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung* (2006), **Futures* (2009, 2010), **Health Sociology Review* (2009), **History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* (2003 [2], 2006, 2008, 2009, 2011 [2]), *H-Soz-Kult* (2020), **International Sociology* (2011 [3], 2012, 2020), *Local Environment* (2008), *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Soziologie* (2008), **Society & Natural Resources* (2005), *Soziale Systeme* (2001), *Soziologische Revue* (2002, 2007: Group Review of Six Books, 2022), *Soziopolis* (2025 [2]), *Technikfolgenabschätzung: Theorie und Praxis* (2003).

PAPERS AND WORK IN PROGRESS (SELECTION)

"What the Leak? Conceptualising Leakage in Shallow Geothermal Energy and Carbon Capture and Storage" (with Danny Otto, Maria Pfeiffer, Alena Bleicher, Marco Sonnberger),

under review with *Science and Technology Studies* (status: revise and resubmit, resubmitted version under review).

“Nachhaltige Zielerreichung oder Experimentelle Offenheit? Überlegungen zu Paradoxien der Reallaborpraxis,” under review with *Gruppe. Interaktion. Organisation. Zeitschrift für Angewandte Organisationspsychologie (GIO)*.

“Navigating the Paradox of Technological Fixes: A Critical Exploration of Nonknowledge in Social and Ecological Contexts,” substantially revised version for the 2nd edition of the *Handbook of Critical Environmental Politics* edited by Luigi Pellizzoni et al. Cheltenham, UK: Elgar.

“Experimentalstadt,” in: Rink, Dieter & Annegret Haase (eds.). *Handbuch Stadtkonzepte*. Stuttgart: UTB.

“Expertise und Nichtwissen: Entscheidungs- und Handlungsstrategien im Ökolandbau,” (with Lena Ebersbach)

“Surprise! Surprise! Toward a Social Theory of Surprises”

“Narratives of Awakening and Victimization.”

“The High Culture of Lowered Cars: Aesthetics, Active Suspensions, and Show Tuning.”

“Rest in Pace: Firing Order and the Resonance of Cruising.”

“The Metropolis and Environmental Life”

Monograph: *Automobility and Well-Being* (targeted publisher: Cambridge UP)

Monograph: *Nothing: How it Matters, Sociologically* (working title)

ACADEMIC SERVICES (Selection)

Since 2012: Founding Board Member of *Environmental Sociology*.

Since 2015: Editorial Board Member of *Science as Culture*.

Since 2015: Editorial Board Member of *Soziopolis* (Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung).

2015-2019: Editorial Board Member of *Energy Research & Social Science*.

Since 2016: Editorial Board Member of *Restoration Ecology* and since 2017 Coordinating Editor for all social science related submissions.

Since 2020: Editorial Board Member of *Soziologie und Nachhaltigkeit: Beiträge zur sozial-ökologischen Transformationsforschung (SuN)*.

Since 2021: Editorial Board Member of *Energies*.

Since 2024: International Editorial Board Member of the *Journal of Society & the Environment* (in Persian)

2021-2026: Supervisory Board Member of the *Energy Research Centre of Lower Saxony* (Energie-Forschungszentrum Niedersachsen, EFZN).

2006-2018: Chair of the *German Sociological Society's* (DGS) “Environmental Sociology” section.

2011-2019: Chair of the Environment & Society Research Network (RN12), *European Sociological Association* (ESA), Board member since 2009.

2017; 2021: Evaluation Committee, Educational accreditation and re-accreditation of the Master Program in Transition Studies, University of Flensburg.

2014-2015; 2020-2021: Evaluation Committee, Educational accreditation and re-accreditation of the Master Program in Environmental Studies, FernUniversität Hagen.

2014-2018: Elected Board member of Research Committee 23, Sociology of Science and Technology, *International Sociological Association* (ISA).

2014-2022: Deputy Head of Research Unit (RU/TB6) "Environment and Society," Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research—UFZ, Leipzig

2013-2016: Member of Acatec-working group *Future Energy Systems* (Energiesysteme der Zukunft, ESYS), Expert Panel on Geothermal Electricity Production.

2013-2015: Founding Board member of RN37, Urban Sociology, *European Sociological Association* (ESA).

2010-2018: Member of the Editorial Board of the *International Sociological Association's* review journal *Sociopedia.isa*.

2002-2010 (two consecutive four-year terms): Treasurer and board member of Research Committee 24, Environment and Society, *International Sociological Association* (ISA).

COURSES TAUGHT AND PREPARED TO TEACH (Selection)

"Introduction to Science and Technology Studies/Sociology of Science and Technology" (taught many times in different university contexts)

"Culture and Nature: Classical and Contemporary Perspectives,"

"Experiment and Society" (course on different forms of experimental knowledge generation outside the traditional sphere of science and their cultural and risk-related implications in historical perspective),

"Nothing Matters: Introduction to the Sociology of Nothing" (course on different forms of nothingness such as non-identity, non-bodies, non-knowledge, inactivity, silence, but also as regards materiality, imagination, and types of ownership),

"Car Cultures,"

"Decentralized Energy Systems" (Teaching/research project),

"Introduction to Sociology" (taught several times also for natural scientists and engineers as part of the Helmholtz-Graduate School),

"Animals and Society" (Introduction into sociological thinking on how human society is structured through its interaction with non-human animals),

"Plants and Society" (Introduction into sociological thinking on how human society is structured through its interaction with plants),

"The Sociology of Surprises,"

"The Sociology of Gardening,"

"Ignorance, Science, & Society" and "Introduction to Ignorance Studies" (Courses focusing on knowledge, risk, nonknowledge, uncertainty, and ignorance as part of decision making in science and society, taught many times on different study levels),

"Contemporary Environmental Sociology" (for sociologists as well as natural scientists & engineers, taught many times in university settings in Germany and the US. Sample course listed in *Teaching Environmental Sociology*, sixth edition, ed. by Michael Mascarenhas),

“Failure” (course on learning from failure, limits of successful failures, failed innovations, mishaps and accidents, coping strategies, technological change and risk)

“Classical Sociology and the Environment” (since 2015 taught as a Masters Course every other winter semester),

“Classical Social Theory,”

“Environment, Sustainability, and Society,”

MANUSCRIPT & PROPOSAL EVALUATIONS, ADVISORY SERVICES, COUNCILS ETC.

(SELECTION OF PAST 10 YEARS)

Book Manuscripts: *Ashgate Publishing; Cambridge University Press; Earthscan; Edward Elgar; Johns Hopkins University Press; MIT Press; Oxford University Press; Palgrave Macmillan; Polity Press; Routledge; Springer Publishing; University of Chicago Press.*

Journal Articles: *American Journal of Sociology; American Sociological Review; American Sociologist; British Journal of Sociology; Contemporary Political Theory; Current Sociology; Distinktion: Scandinavian Journal of Social Theory; Ecological Economics; Ecology & Society; Energy Policy; Energies; Energy Research & Social Science; Environment and Planning A and C; Environment, Development and Sustainability (ENVI); Environmental Earth Sciences; Environmental Politics; Environmental Sociology; European Journal of Sociology; European Urban and Regional Studies; Extractive Industries and Society; FQS – Forum: Qualitative Social Research; Futures; Gaia; Geoforum; History of the Human Sciences; Human Ecology; Human Ecology Review; Humanities; International Journal of Sociology; Journal for Discourse Studies; Journal for Nature Conservation; Journal of Cleaner Production; Journal of Environmental Planning & Management; Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning; Journal of Historical Sociology; Journal of Responsible Innovation; Journal of Risk Research; Journal of Rural Studies; Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie & Sozialpsychologie; Land Use Policy; Landscape & Urban Planning; Minerva; Moravian Geographical Reports; Natural Hazards; Österreichische Zeitschrift für Soziologie; Organization & Environment; Organization Studies; Prometheus: Critical Studies in Innovation; Restoration Ecology; Review of International Political Economy; Risk Analysis; Science & Engineering Ethics; Science Communication; Science as Culture; Science & Public Policy; Science of the Total Environment; Science, Technology, & Human Values; Social Epistemology; Social Forces; Social Science History; Socio-Economic Review; Sociologica; Sociological Inquiry; Sociological Quarterly; Sociological Research Online; Soziale Systeme; Soziale Welt; Space and Culture; Sustainability; Sustainability: Science, Practice, & Policy (SSPP); Sustainability Science; Symbolic Interaction; TATuP; Technology in Society; Theoria; Theory, Culture & Society; Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers; Zeitschrift für Soziologie (among many others).*

Foundations & other Funding and Evaluation Agencies: *Academy of Finland; Alexander von Humboldt Foundation; Baden-Württemberg Programm Lebensgrundlage Umwelt und ihre Sicherung (BWPLUS); Belgian Science Policy Office; Bundesministerium für Bildung & Forschung (BMBF); Czech Science Foundation; Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst*

(DAAD); Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU); Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG); EU/Horizon 2020; Energie-Forschungszentrum Niedersachsen; Evangelisches Studienwerk; Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek Vlaanderen (Research Foundation – Flanders, FWO); Fritz Thyssen Stiftung; Guggenheim Foundation; Independent Research Fund Denmark; Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Kultur des Landes Niedersachsen; Ministerium für Umwelt, Klima und Energiewirtschaft Baden-Württemberg (UM); National Science Foundation (NSF, US); National Science Centre (Narodowe Centrum Nauki - NCN) Poland; The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NOW); Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften; Österreichischer Wissenschaftsfonds (FWF); Portuguese Foundation for Science & Technology; Raumforschung und Raumordnung/Spatial Research and Planning; Research Council of Norway (RCN); Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft/Staatssekretariat für Bildung & Forschung (SBF); Schweizerischer Nationalfonds (SNF); Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes; Swiss Transdisciplinarity Award; Volkswagen Foundation; Wissenschaftsrat (Germany) (among many others).

SELECTION OF AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, JOB OFFERS, RESEARCH PROJECTS, ETC.

2025-2028: DFG-Project as part of SFB/Transregio 294 on “Energiewende als Eigentumswende? Dynamiken der Aneignung im europäischen Windenergieausbau” (“The Energy Transition as Ownership Transition? Dynamics of Appropriation in Europe’s Wind Energy Expansion”), University of Jena. Two Doctoral positions for 48 months, plus material expenses.

2023-2026: Research Project at UFZ: “RamonCO: Risk-Based Framework for Assessing CO2 Storage Monitoring.” PI: Danny Otto.

2021-2026: Advisory Board Member, Environmental Awareness Survey, German Federal Environmental Agency & Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

2021-2023: Advisory council member, Energy Research Centre of Lower Saxony (EFZN), Germany.

July 2022: Approval of Full Funding for a Symposium on “Failure in Science: Context, Ignorance and the Future of Failing” at Schloss Herrenhausen, Hannover, Germany (in cooperation with A. Mica & M. Pawlak, U Warsaw). Funding 58.900 EUR, December 2022.

2021-2024: Research Project as part of SFB/Transregio 294 *Strukturwandel des Eigentums* on “Windernte und Wärmeklau als Indikatoren neuer Eigentumsordnungen” (“Harvesting Wind and Stealing Heat as Indicators of New Forms of Ownership”), University of Jena, *German Research Foundation* (DFG). 48 person months (post doc), plus material expenses.

July 2019: Approval of “DigiMon: Digital Monitoring of CO2 Storage Projects.” *CLIMIT - Program for Power Generation with Carbon Capture and Storage*. Application Number: ES635519, Project Number: 299622. Overall funding: 6.466.0002€, UFZ sociology part: 36+ person months (post doc) plus material expenses. Term: Oct. 2019 to Sept. 2022.

July 2018: Winner of the Frederick Buttel Award for Distinguished Scholarship in environmental sociology by the Environment and Society Research Committee (RC24), *International Sociological Association* (ISA).

January 2014-2020: Integrated Project of the Helmholtz Association: *EnergyLandUse*. Working Packages on Governance Issues and Geothermal Energy, includes a post doc position for 36-person months.

2008 to 2016: Short listed (second or third place respectively) for Full Professorships (tenure on entry) at universities in Hamburg (2008, 3rd), Zeppelin U in Friedrichshafen (2012, 2nd), Wageningen/Netherlands (2016, 2nd), and a couple more, I believe.

May 2013: Awarded the Sage Prize for Innovation and Excellence of the British Sociological Association (BSA) in *Cultural Sociology* for my work on Georg Simmel and Nonknowledge.

February 2013: Position Offered at the University of Jena, Germany in "Environmental Sociology," Tenured Full Professorship (W3) as joint appointment with UFZ in Leipzig (accepted).

January 2013: Position Offered at the University of Freiburg, Germany in "Science and Technology Studies," Tenured Full Professorship (W3, declined).

October 2012: Position Offered at the Catholic University of Eichstätt, Germany in "Process Oriented Sociology," Tenured Full Professorship (W2, declined).

June 2011 to June 2014: "Tailored Improvement of Brownfield Regeneration in Europe – TIMBRE," EU Proposal No. 265364–TIMBRE. Co-applicant and Person in Charge for the Work Package on *Decision Structures and Local Culture* as part of the Collaborative Project. Overall funding: 3.499.902€, UFZ sociology part: 36+ person months (post doc) plus material expenses.

November 2010 to June 2015: Person in Charge for the sociological Work Package in the EU Marie-Curie Action-Initial Training Network "Advancing Sustainable *In Situ* Remediation for Contaminated Land and Groundwater – ADVOCATE." Overall funding: 3.450.000 €, UFZ sociology part: 24 person months (post doc) plus material expenses.

November 2009 - April 2014: Person in Charge for the EU Network of Excellence Project *Linking Impact Assessment Instruments to Sustainability Expertise*, LIAISE, Grant agreement no.: 243826–LIAISE (UFZ sociology funding: 268.000 Euros).

Awarded the 2007/08 *McCloy Fellowship in Environmental Affairs* from the "American Council on Germany," New York, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service Evanston, Illinois.

March 2006 to December 2012: Research project on science communication and sustainability evaluation as part of the "megasites" research on *Remediation of Regionally Contaminated Aquifers (SAFIRA II)*, funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). Full funding for a post doc (plus material expenses and student assistants) for six years.

September 2002: 2.600 Euros of student loans (BaföG) were forgiven due to early finishing of the course of studies and for a grade point average in the top 30% of 1998's sociology diplomas at Bielefeld University.

November 2001 (date of approval): Research project funding (529.000 Euro) from the *Volkswagen Foundation* for an interdisciplinary junior research group on "Real-world Experiments" (together with Holger Hoffmann-Riem).

July 2001 to March 2002: Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the German Research Foundation – DFG, Institute for Science and Technology Studies (IWT), Universität Bielefeld.

June 2001: Doctoral degree in sociology (Dr. rer. soc.), Universität Bielefeld. Committee: Wolfgang Krohn (chair), Peter Weingart, Alex Preda, Otthein Rammstedt.

Summer 2000 – Spring 2001: Assistant Coordinator in the SEIN (Simulating sEelf-organizing Innovation Networks) project under the Tser (Targeted Socio-Economic Research) Program of the European Community, Director: Günter Küppers.

Spring Term 2000: Research Fellowship with the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) at the Department of Rural Sociology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA.

April 1999 to June 2001: Doctoral Fellowship (full funding) from the *German Research Foundation* (DFG) at the Graduate College *Genese, Strukturen und Folgen von Wissenschaft und Technik*, Institute for Science and Technology Studies, Universität Bielefeld.

1998: Universität Bielefeld, Faculty of Sociology: Award of the diploma degree (“With Distinction”), Committee: Wolfgang Krohn and Karin Knorr Cetina.

Summer semester 1995, winter semester 1996/97, and summer semester 1997: Teaching Fellowships (“Tutor”) at the Faculty of Sociology, Universität Bielefeld.

May – July 1996: Internship at the *Center for Applied Social Analysis and Education* (CASAE), Arcata, California, USA.

Academic Year 1995-1996: State fellowship for full tuition and living expenses for an academic year as a sociology graduate student at California State Polytechnic University (Cal Poly Humboldt, until 2022 Humboldt State University), Arcata, California.

March – May 1995: Interviewer for the *Bertelsmann Foundation* in a regional project on “Structural Improvements for Cultural Planning.”

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (Selection)

Fall term 2003: Participation in urban park development projects, Chicago.

March – June 2000: Volunteer work in restoration projects related to the use of prescribed fire on prairies and in urban parks; Madison, Wisconsin.

April – September 1992: Volunteer Work in different settings in Australia in environmental conservation projects and farm work with *Involvement Volunteers Ass. Inc.*, Australia.

August 1990 – October 1991: Alternate Service (sometimes referred to as Civilian Service) in a Hospital for Mouth and Face Cancer at Universitätskliniken Bonn, Germany.