



14 – 25 June 2021, online. Organized by the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich.

# Citizen Science Summer School

## Transforming research through public participation

### Theme

What are the **potentials of citizen science** for increased **dialogue between science and society**? What **skills and competencies** do researchers and citizens need to do citizen science? Are there **ethical aspects** that need to be considered and how can they be addressed? Can citizen science contribute to **solving social problems**? How can citizen science **transform research**?

Citizen science and other participatory approaches in scientific research have received broad attention in recent years. The aims of involving citizens in science are manifold and range from the empowerment of marginalized groups to increasing the amount of data collected. Activities encompass small-scale local projects as well as large-scale international projects.

### Goals

In this digital Summer School, you will identify and develop skills needed to engage in participatory research. Based on an interactive format with ample time for discussion and hands-on activities, you will

- get an overview of current citizen science debates and know the essential arguments
- get to know different approaches of citizen science, its methods and tools, their limits and possibilities
- be able to decide how participatory approaches can be useful for your own research project
- become familiar with principles, methods and tools for participatory process design and support.
- gain insights from current citizen science activities in Zurich with a high degree of participation
- exchange ideas and experiences with researchers connected to citizen science and local citizens.

### Participant requirements

Researchers from all disciplines as well as practitioners in the field of citizen science are invited to apply. Primarily, the Summer School is designed for PhD candidates and early postdocs. Participants must have access to a computer with a microphone, webcam, and a stable internet connection. We ask participants to be present for group

activities such as discussions, lectures, and collaborative exercises which will be conducted via Zoom and other digital tools. The program will be held Monday to Friday between approx. 9 am to 4 pm GMT+1. Daily learning activities will make up 4 - 5 hours, with ample time for discussion, independent and group work. Participants are expected to attend the entire Summer School.

We strive for a diverse group of participants with different disciplinary backgrounds, a keen interest in research with societal relevance, and new ways to interact with (non-academic) citizens. Sessions will be conducted in English, therefore fluency in both spoken and written English is essential. Since some parts of the program may be held in German, (passive) knowledge of German is an asset.

### Participation costs

200 CHF per participant. In cases of special financial burden (for example for single parents), we are able to grant a participation fee reduction of CHF 100 for a limited number of applicants. The participation fee must be paid by June 08, 2021. Participants will be responsible to manage any reimbursement from their institution individually, if applicable.

### Disclaimer

We reserve the right to make changes to the program and format. Please understand that changes do not entitle participants to a refund or reduction of the participation fee. It is the participants' responsibility to ensure that they have the technical infrastructure needed to participate in all activities.

### How to apply

Applicants are requested to provide the following material:

- a motivation letter which outlines your interest in the Summer School and the experience and skills you can contribute
- a short abstract indicating the current status of your doctoral thesis (max. 350 words). Please make sure that your abstract is presented in a language that is accessible to people from other disciplines.
- a current CV
- if you are applying for a fee reduction, please explain why this is necessary.

Please apply online via

[www.citizenscienceschool.uzh.ch](http://www.citizenscienceschool.uzh.ch)

by March 10th, 2021, **23:59h**.

[www.citizenscienceschool.uzh.ch](http://www.citizenscienceschool.uzh.ch)

[citizenscienceschool@grc.uzh.ch](mailto:citizenscienceschool@grc.uzh.ch)

### Organizing team

**Graduate Campus,  
University of Zurich:**

Dr. Birte Lembke-Ibold, Events and Communication  
Cornelia Joss, Team Assistant  
[www.grc.uzh.ch](http://www.grc.uzh.ch)

**Participatory Science Academy,  
University of Zurich and ETH Zurich:**

Dr. Susanne Tönsmann, Managing Director  
Olivia Höhener, Development and Coordination of Services  
Julienne Karzig, Student Assistant  
Alessandro Rearte, Student Assistant  
[www.pwa.uzh.ch](http://www.pwa.uzh.ch)

**Graduate Campus**



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