



# Lecture Series in Social Anthropology

Spring  
Semester  
2025

Tuesday 8 April 2025 | 4.15 p.m. | Room AND-4-06

## Feeding the Future: Child Nutrition and Reproductive Imaginaries in Switzerland

**Dr. Edmée Ballif (Universität Zürich)**

What does food have to do with reproduction? Building on Emily Yates-Doerr's analysis of nutrition as a reproductive practice, I connect reproductive and food studies to examine the current controversy surrounding the distribution of cow's milk in Swiss schools. I propose the concept of "nutritional reproduction" to analyze how food debates reflect and reproduce social hierarchies. A shared "reproductive grammar" among proponents and opponents of milk distribution emphasizes expert-led, health-oriented, and ethical childcare. However, this grammar also perpetuates exclusionary ideas of Swiss identity and normalcy, marginalizing children along the lines of migration, health, and class. This analysis contributes to understanding how food discussions intersect with reproductive politics and national identity formation.

**Organization:**

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Entrance free of charge.

Subject to change. For details see: <https://t.uzh.ch/1s7>

