UiO: Energy and Environment
Summer Research Project Description

Project Title: 2050+ Climate Imaginaries in Norway

Supervisor: Manjana Milkoreit, Department of Sociology and Human Geography

Preferred Background of Candidates: Master student in the social sciences, e.g., human geography, political science, or psychology, with some experience with qualitative and/or computational methods, data organization, Excel, NVivo.

Number of projects: 1

Preferred project period: April 1 – June 28, 2025
(6 weeks or 12 weeks with 50% possible)

Project Work and Expected Outcomes:

The student would contribute to a research project in human geography: "**Geographies of the Future – Conceiving and Contesting Social-Climatic Imaginaries Across Three Spheres of Society**". The project studies what kinds of future visions related to climate change are created and communicated by different political actors in multiple country-case studies (Norway, Germany, USA). Differentiating between four spheres of social-political life – government, economy, civil society, and culture – the project seeks to identify and compare the content of future visions of actors in each sphere and the strategies and techniques these actors use to communicate about the future. We combine qualitative and quantitative text and visual analyses with interviews and social media analysis to identify 'future climate imaginaries'. In a later phase we compare imaginaries across the four spheres in each country and within each sphere across countries.

The student's research would contribute to the Norway case study. The work would involve data (document) collection from the Internet related to non-governmental organizations in Norway, data organization (e.g., file naming and storing), and database management, qualitative analysis of texts in NVivo using an existing codebook, and quantitative (computational) text analyses using text mining techniques. The supervisor would provide methodological training to enable the student to complete these tasks. The student would be involved in drafting a research article based on the work completed, becoming a co-author of a potential publication.

Expected outcomes of the work would be (1) database completion, (2) presentation on results the of qualitative document analyses, and (3) drafting or editing of sections of a research article.