

Projektseminar: Empirische Netzwerkanalyse

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Studiengang: Master of Arts Soziologie „Forschungspraxis und Praxisforschung“

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Romananalyse “Das Café ohne Namen”

Social Network Analysis (SNA) is currently being conducted from various perspectives and in a wide range of disciplines. It is also gaining more attention in literary studies. Methods of SNA are used in literary studies to examine group structures and patterns in literary works, for example. Through the use of SNA in a literary work, the underlying structures of the work are made visible, which may not be apparent through simple reading of the novel.

In the context of the project, our goal is to analyze the structures and connections between the characters in the novel "Café ohne Namen."

SNA is suitable for this novel by Robert Seethaler, as it initially reads quite unstructured in its narrative sequence. The work is set in the sixties and seventies in Vienna. It revolves around the “Café ohne Namen”, a small restaurant at the Viennese Karmelitermarkt, and its owner, employees, and regular customers. There is no classical protagonist as a hero figure, but only a casual worker who tries something new with the opening of a café. In line with this, Seethaler portrays small portraits of simple people in his work without much drama or real climax.