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Workshop in blended sensory walk, Thursday, April 30, 2026, 17:00-18:30

Blended Sensory Walk: Experiencing Heritage or Fragile Environments and Ambiances with/in Digital Environments

The author will present the experimental methodological design, comprising walking methodologies, online participation and use of digital devices (smart phone) in sensory studies. Blended sensory walk is a sensory walk done individually from various locations, using mobile (smart) phones to record exciting parts of the walk. The main point of the blended sensory walk is to make photographs or any other digital recordings at the walk, using mobile phones as an extension of our senses.

While walking for some 40 minutes, following individual path participants find interesting from the place of their current location, and experiencing environment with all senses. It might be a strange experience, because during the walk, participants should not communicate with other people (neither in person nor by digital devices). The participants are in dispersed places and walking to observe and experience exciting heritage sites, views and vistas, as well as specific environments and ambiances where they can make a stop.

Participants should document whatever they might understand or perceive as cultural heritage or endangered environments/ambiances, both by their own senses and by sensors of their mobile phones. Participants might touch, smell, observe or listen to the sites of cultural heritage, exciting environments and ambiances, walking by or observing them from the distance, and documenting them by additional digital recordings.

After returning, they will write down a short resume of their walk, expressing their experiences and feelings/impressions, as detailed as possible, and after that the discussion and presentations of their recordings follow.

See: Pretnar Žagar, Ajda, and Rajko Muršič. 2026. "Blended Sensory Walks: Teaching Data Literacy Through Anthropological Practice." *Practicing Anthropology*, March, 1–17. doi:10.1080/08884552.2026.2635502.