
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using UCT DMP

Title: African counter-cartographies: Epistemic Departures through Southern, Queer, and Entangled Colonial Geopolitics in Cape Town and Cairo

Creator: Daanyaal Loofer

Principal Investigator: Daanyaal Loofer

Data Manager: Daanyaal Loofer

Affiliation: University of Cape Town

Funder: National Research Foundation and Robert Bosch Stiftung

Template: UCT Student Generic DMP

ORCID iD: 0009-0007-3636-5705

Project abstract:

This PhD proposal explores how counter-cartographies in Cape Town (South Africa) and Cairo (Egypt) are situating Southern spatial knowledge production within African urbanisms. Historically and normatively, cartography embodies dominant technocratic, rationalist, Northern epistemologies that present maps as objective, neutral world-truths. This study seeks to deconstruct this framing by conceptualising cartographies as performative, processual, and multi-modal. Drawing on critical cartography, Southern Theory, decolonial/ postcolonial/ anticolonial, Queer theory, and minor theory, this research project explores how grassroots, arts-based, and activist-oriented cartographies craft spatial imaginaries that contest hegemonic structures and contributes towards grounded urban praxis in struggles for land, housing, and belonging.

The research study uses a qualitative, iterative, constructivist approach rooted in grounded theory. Situational Analysis mapping is paired with a queer phenomenological approach, while patchwork ethnography, semi-structured interviews, focus groups and Participatory Action Research (PAR) are used as techniques and tools for data collection. Collaborative counter-cartographic engagements are designed into the phased research approach, foregrounding process and relationality. Through an exploration of practices within the two cities, contribution is made towards how counter-cartographies operate as epistemic departures from dominant spatial knowledge regimes in urban studies.

ID: 6402

Start date: 01-04-2024

End date: 31-12-2026

Last modified: 17-04-2026

Copyright information:

The above plan creator(s) have agreed that others may use as much of the text of this plan as they would like in their own plans, and customise it as necessary. You do not need to credit the creator(s) as the source of the language used, but using any of the plan's text does not imply that the creator(s) endorse, or have any relationship to, your project or proposal

African counter-cartographies: Epistemic Departures through Southern, Queer, and Entangled Colonial Geopolitics in Cape Town and Cairo - Student Outline DMP

1. General guidelines

PURPOSE OF THIS TEMPLATE - The purpose of the Outline DMP is to indicate your initial plans for how your data will be collected, shared and stored, and to give you a chance to think about these data-focused aspects of the research process. As you begin doing your research, your data process may change, and it is perfectly acceptable to change your data management plan to accommodate the changes in your research process. Indicate below that you understand the purpose of completing this Outline DMP template.

- I understand the Outline DMP template is a projection of my anticipated data management planning requirements and should be updated as my project develops.

2. Authors and supervisors

PROJECT NAME - Replicate the title of your project, dissertation or thesis exactly as it appears in your proposal document.

African Counter-Cartographies: Epistemic Departures through Southern, Queer, and Entangled Colonial Geopolitics in Cape Town and Cairo

PERSONAL DETAILS - Indicate the name(s) and student number(s) of the student(s) who will be involved in this project, dissertation or thesis.

Daanyaal Loofer, LFRDAA001

SUPERVISOR(S) DETAILS - Indicate who will supervise this project, dissertation or thesis. If you do not yet have a supervisor, leave this section blank.

Dr. Friderike Sitas

3. Data Collection/Generation

COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL DATA - Indicate whether or not you intend to gather/produce original data for your study, and provide a brief description of the kind of data you think you will collect. If you are unsure at this time, indicate what you think you are most likely to collect. If you are not intending to gather or collect your own data, declare that here.

- I intend to collect original data (described below).

I intend to collect primary qualitative data through open ended and semi-structured interviews with members of 3 - 5 organisations who are undertaking counter-cartographies in line with the research topic. The amount of interviews is not finite at this point, however I estimate multiple rounds of conversations, collaborative processes, and member reflections after the fieldwork commences. The interviews will be noted using memo-writing, situational mapping, and recording (if and when the participants are comfortable), to be transcribed as soon after the interview and focus groups take place. I am unsure how large my data set will be at this stage.

USE OF EXISTING DATA - Indicate if you intend to re-use existing data, either from online searches or from datasets provided by your supervisor, lab, or funder. If you are not intending to re-use existing data, declare that here.

- I intend to reuse existing data in my study (described below).

I intend to use existing data within the research project, to be referenced at all times and dependent on the reuse/restrictions of the dataset. Any acquired secondary data will be stored in a trusted and password protected archive, either on my work computer or encrypted in the cloud, in order to protect the owners and subjects of the data. Access to the data will be strictly at the discretion of the owner of said datasets. Once data has been used or recorded within the PhD at the permission of the owner, the data and archive will be destroyed at the request of the owner.

DATA SHARING - Indicate whether or not you are intending to publish your research data. If you are, indicate where you are intending to publish your data and under what licensing conditions, such as Creative Commons. If you are not intending to publish your data, provide reasons and reference the appropriate ethical considerations, commercial applications/patenting ambition, or data re-use agreements that prevent you from publishing your data.

- I intend to share my data (details below).

I intend to publish my research data in line with the University of Cape Town and National Research Foundation policies and procedures. If any of the research data created during the process of the project is deemed to negatively impact participants or collaborators, the research data will not be shared and will be deleted at the discretion of all affected parties. In line with the Research and Data Management Policy, research data provisions will be decided based on the ethical considerations of the data. This will be reflected in the ethical clearance and consent forms.

4. Data Storage

ANTICIPATED DATASET SIZE - Indicate the estimated size of your completed dataset, and indicate whether or not you will need to access additional data storage facilities. If such storage is not provided by your unit or department, you may need to factor in the cost of purchasing additional storage space.

- Between 20GB and 100GB

No access to additional data storage facilities will be required. I do not anticipate my data set to reach beyond 20GB. The size of the datasets will not limit the ways in which data collection and analysis will be curated, archived and shared.

DATA BACKUPS - Indicate how you plan to ensure your data is secure and retrievable in case of errors or hardware failure. Describe what procedures you will put in place to back-up copies of your data and where they will be stored.

- I intend to backup my data using a service provided by UCT (UCT GoogleDrive, UCT OneDrive, Netstorage, ZivaHub etc.).

I intend to store my data in the cloud on my UCT OneDrive location, to ensure the security of my data and analysis, beyond the hardware being used to store data. Any physical copies of data, such as notes, scripts, sketches, will be stored in a secure location in my locked office at the University of Cape Town.

5. Data Centre(s)/Repositories

DATA CENTRES/REPOSITORIES - Once your project, dissertation or thesis is complete, it is advisable to curate and archive your completed dataset with an established data centre or repository. Note that you should archive your data even if you are not intending to publish it. Check with your supervisor or funder if you are required to deposit your data in a specific repository, or declare that you will deposit the data in ZivaHub (see the Guidance section).

- At the end of my study, I will deposit my data on ZivaHub.

I intend to make use of the UCT secure data repository, ZivaHub to store my data once completed.

METADATA - Metadata is descriptive information that others will need to make sense of your dataset. Metadata includes things like study descriptions or abstracts, study instruments (sample collection schedules, codebooks for variables, survey instruments, etc.), subject codes, and keywords. Indicate what metadata will accompany your curated dataset.

Keywords relating to the data will be in line with the research topic and methodology. For this reason, metadata may entail queer, southern theory, decolonial and anticolonial theory, african urbanism, counter-cartography, counter-mapping, minor theory etc as some of the descriptive information.

6. Budget

BUDGET - Indicate any costs specifically relating to the management and curation of your data, such as purchasing additional storage space, digitisation of physical media, data storage or curation charges, and data audits. Most student research will be able to make use of free options provided by UCT and will not have to budget for data costs.

- I do not anticipate any data costs as my data is less than 10GB, and I will be using my existing storage (e.g. an external harddrive) to curate my data.

I do not anticipate my data to exceed 20GB, however I do have an external storage device and access to UCT cloud repositories which I believe will be sufficient.

Planned Research Outputs

Text - "African counter-cartographies: Epistemic Departures through Southern, Queer, and Entangled Colonial Geopolitics in Cape Town and Cairo"

The expected Research Output is a Dissertation in the form of a text, with supplementary visual content in the form of visual aids, both primary and secondary. The Research Output is in line with the anticipated format and medium of a PhD Dissertation by research, including original data.

Planned research output details

Title	Type	Anticipated release date	Initial access level	Intended repository(ies)	Anticipated file size	License	Metadata standard(s)	May contain sensitive data?	May contain PII?
African counter-cartographies: Epistemic Departure ...	Text	2028-07-31	Open	None specified	1 GB	None specified	None specified	No	No