Course name and code: **‘Historical methods: Oral history’** LGX048M05

**Oral history project**

Course coordinators (in alphabetical order): Dr Yuliya Hilevych and Dr Hannah Malone (Department of History)

Project title: Collective memories of place, space and belonging in the North Netherlands communities since the 1970s

Localities: settlements, villages, towns and cities in the provinces of Friesland, Groningen, and Drenthe

Research aim: To examine perceptions and lived experiences of spatial (in architecture, memorials etc) and social (community ties, social inequalities) changes and continuities in the North Netherlands communities (rural, urban, semi-urban)

Research questions:

In what way have perceptions of living and working in North Netherlands communities changed in the course since the 1950s?

How do people perceive and live through special/architectural changes in their area?

Sample: people (provided they are in good mental and physical health) who have lived in the community for at least 10 years.

Duration of one interview: 40-90min

**Oral history guide**

Opening question: *Tell me about who you are and your life in the community.*

***Specific themes, questions, and probes:***

**1) Growing up and being young in the community**

What was it like to grow up and being young in the community?

Probes: who brought you up? With whom did you grow up and where? Did you move around? How was your school and other education experience?

**2)Work and leisure in the community**

What community clubs and events have you participated in and why?

Probes: what about sport clubs? Heritage and natural protection clubs? Any specific clubs to your community? Your involvement in the community affair (e.g. boards, councils, local authorities)? Has it changed over the years?

**3) Family and friends in the community**

Do your family/friends live in the community?

Probes: What relations do you have with them? In what ways have your family ties/social ties changed?

**4) Living and emotional environment in the community**

Has your community a nice place to live in?

Probes: for example, in terms of work and study opportunities, welfare and health environment?

What emotions do you feel when think about your community? Why?

**5) Heritage environment in the community**

Tell me about the places of architecture and attraction that you like most in your community and why?

Probes: For example, specific buildings, museums, monuments. How do you feel about them?

**6) Historical environment in the community**

Have there been any events and/or people that make your community historically and culturally significant?

Probes: Why these events/people? What is your personal connection to them?

**7) Natural environment in the community**

In what way has the nature changed in your community?

Probe: what are the reasons for this? Is there anything done to change this?

***Ethical considerations***

This project will be carried as part of the course ‘Historical methods: Oral history’ (course code). Students will all work on the same research topic, goal and interview guide. Each student will conduct, transcribe (verbatim) and anonymise one interview. During the anonymisation process, personal information (surnames, dates and place of birth) will be retracted. After the end of the course, the original audio recordings will be destroyed.

Each individual transcript may be held by the student who collected the interview. Students may use their transcripts in the essays and theses they are writing for the study programme. All anonymised transcripts will be gathered by the lectures at the end of the course and deposited in the course folder on TBA-drive of the university/faculty network. All anonymised transcripts in the archive may be used by the lecturers at the Department of History, and authorised students, for teaching and research purposes.