

Curriculum Vitae

Alexander Zahl-Thanem

Ruralis – Institute for Rural and Regional Research

Personal information

Name: Alexander Zahl-Thanem
Birth: 10.05.1989
Position: PhD-student / Researcher III
Email: alexander.zahl-thanem@ruralis.no
Address: Loholt Alle 81, 7049 Trondheim, Norway.

Formal Education

2012-2014 Master of Science in Sociology, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim
2009-2012 Bachelor in Social Science (Sociology), Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim

Employment record

2020-d.d. PhD-student / Researcher III, Ruralis – Institute for Rural and Regional Research.
2017-2020 Researcher III, Ruralis – Institute for Rural and Regional Research
2015-2017 Research assistant, Ruralis – Institute for Rural and Regional Research
2015-2015 Consultant, Sosiologisk poliklinikk.

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters

- 2025 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** Rethinking Stayers: The impact of Definitions and Methods. *Sociologia Ruralis*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/soru.12506>
- 2025 **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, and Blekesaune, A. (2025). Social origin and educational choices: A comparison of rural and urban students' school track choices in Norway. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0001699324130561>.
- 2024 **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, and Rye, J.F. (2024). Spatial inequality in higher education. A growing urban-rural educational gap? *European Sociological Review*. XX, 1-15. Doi: 10.1093/esr/jcae015.
- 2023 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** (2023). Ulikhet i høyere utdanning: Betydningen av klassebakgrunn, kjønn og bosted [Inequality in higher education: The importance of class, gender and place of origin]. In M. Villa, E. T. Valestrand og J. F. Rye (Eds.), *Migrasjon og mobilitet – handlinger, mønstre og forståelser i norsk sammenheng* (Chapter 3, pp. 59–79). Oslo: Cappelen Damm Akademisk.
- 2023 Heggem, R., Gjørund, G., **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, Brigham, M. (2023). Overweight children in rural Norway – Public health nurses' possibilities and limitations within national guidelines. *Rural and Remote Health*. 23: 7783. Doi: 10.22605/RRH7783.
- 2022 Heggem, R. and **Zahl-Thanem, A.** (2022). Overweight and obesity among children in rural areas: The importance of culture. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*. Doi: 10.1177/14034948211037877.
- 2021 **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, Burton, J.F., and Vik, J. (2021). Should we use email for farm surveys? A comparative study of email and postal survey response rate and non-response bias. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 87: 352-360. Doi : 10.1016/j.jrurstud.2021.09.029.
- 2021 Farstad, M., and **Zahl-Thanem, A** (2021). Social transparency in rural areas in Norway:

Promoting or restraining the desire to stay? *European Countryside*. 59(4). Doi: 10.1111/soru.12251.

- 2021 Kragt, M.E., Burton, R. **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, and Otte, P. P (2021). Farmers' interest in crowdfunding to finance climate change mitigation practices. *Journal of Cleaner Production*. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2021.128967>
- 2020 **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, Burton, J.F., Blekesaune, A., Haugen, M.S., and Rønningen, K. (2020). The impact of wolves on psychological distress among farmers in Norway. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 78: 1-11. DOI: 10.1016/j.jrurstud.2020.05.010
- 2020 Hansen, L., and A. **Zahl-Thanem** (2020). 'Holdning for endring?' i Burton, R., Forbord, M., Fuglestad, E. M., and M. Ellingsen (ed.) *Etter Oljen – Vår Bioøkonomiske Framtid*. Oslo: Cappelen Damm, pp. 221-240.
- 2019 **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, and Haugen, M.S. (2019): Attitudes toward immigrants in rural Norway. A rural-urban comparison. *Sociologia Ruralis*, 59: 685-700. DOI: 10.1111/soru.12251.

Reports and other publications last five years

- 2024 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** & Stræte, E.P. (2024). *Trender i norsk landbruk 2024 – Innlandet* [Trends in Norwegian Agriculture 2024 – Innlandet]. *Ruralis*, R-5/24.
- 2024 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** & Melås, A. (2024). *Trender i norsk landbruk 2024 – Dokumentasjonsrapport med frekvenser* [Trends in Norwegian Agriculture 2024 – Documentation Report with Frequencies]. *Ruralis*, R-6/24.
- 2024 Stræte, E.P., Logstein, B., Melås, A., Mittenzwei, K., Winsvold, A., & **Zahl-Thanem, A.** (2024). *Rekruttering av avløserer til jordbruket* [Recruitment of Relief Workers in Agriculture]. R-1/24, ISSN 2704-0208.
- 2022 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** & Melås, A. (2022). *Trender i norsk landbruk 2022. En nasjonal spørreundersøkelse blant bønder i Norge* [Trends in Norwegian Agriculture 2022. A National Survey of Farmers in Norway]. R-10/22.
- 2022 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** & Stræte, E.P. (2022). *Trender i norsk landbruk 2022. Regional rapport for Møre og Romsdal* [Trends in Norwegian Agriculture 2022. Regional Report for Møre og Romsdal]. R-6/22, ISSN 1503-2035, *Ruralis*.
- 2022 **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, Ersfjord, E., Gjøsund, G., Heggem, R., Oldervoll, L., Plasil, L., & Brigham, M. (2022). *Kommunetilpasset forebygging og behandling – Overvekt og fedme blant bygdebarn. Sluttrapport* [Municipality-Adapted Prevention and Treatment – Obesity and Overweight Among Rural Children. Final Report]. R-3/22, ISSN 1503-2035, *Ruralis*.
- 2021 **Zahl-Thanem, A.**, Farstad, M., & Blekesaune, A. (2021). *Lokalsamfunnsundersøkelsen 2021. Dokumentasjonsrapport med frekvenser* [The Local Community Survey 2021. Documentation Report with Frequencies]. R-8/21, ISSN 1503-2035, *Ruralis*.
- 2020 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** & Melås, A. (2020). *Trender i norsk landbruk 2020* [Trends in Norwegian Agriculture 2020]. R-2/20, ISSN 1503-2035, *Ruralis*.

Presentations and conference papers last five years

- 2024 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** *Trender i norsk landbruk – Innlandet* [Trends in Norwegian Agriculture – Innlandet]. Presentation at New Knowledge Base for Agriculture in Innlandet. Hamar, September 2024.
- 2023 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** Social inequality and the rural gap. European Society for Rural Sociology Congress (ESRS). Rennes, France.

- 2022 **Zahl-Thanem, A:** Trender i norsk landbruk: Møre og Romsdal. [Trends in Norwegian Agriculture: Møre & Romsdal]. Presentation at consultation seminar for new county strategy for agriculture in Møre og Romsdal. Molde, Norway .
- 2021 Heggem, R., Gjørund, G., and **Zahl-Thanem, A.** (2021): Overvekt og fedme blant bygdebarn: Barrierer og muligheter for helsesykepleiere som jobber på landsbygda [Overweight and obesity among rural children: Barriers and opportunities for health nurses working with children in rural areas]. Folkehelsekonferansen. October 2021, Trondheim, Norway.
- 2021 Rønningen, K., and **Zahl-Thanem, A.** (2021). Are grazing practices in the outfields sustainable? Mental health pressures in carnivore-affected areas. Nordic meeting on agricultural occupational health and safety. September 2021, Skjetlein, Norway.
- 2020 **Zahl-Thanem, A.** (2020): Psykisk helse blant bønder i rovdyrutsatte områder». [Psychological distress among farmers in carnivore-pressured areas]. Nordic meeting on agricultural health. November 2020, Digital conference.

Projects (role)

- 2024-d.d. The Local Community Survey (*Project leader*)
- 2020-d.d. Trends in Norwegian Agriculture (*Project leader*)
- 2023-2026 Agrisocial: Towards a socially sustainable green transition for agriculture and rural communities (*Project member*).
- 2023-2023 Rekruttering av avløserer og landbruksvikarer til jordbruket [Recruitment of Relief Workers and Agricultural Substitutes in Farming]. (*Project member*).
- 2020-d.d. Geografisk ulikhet og mobilitet i Norge [Spatial Inequalities and Mobilities in Norway. PhD Project.
- 2018-2020 Kommunitilpasset forebygging og behandling - overvekt og fedme blant bygdebarn (KOMPASS) [Municipality-Adapted Prevention and Treatment – Overweight and Obesity Among Rural Children] (*Project member*).
- 2017-2020 Beiteressurs, rovdyr og lokalsamfunn [Grazing Resources, Predators, and Local Communities]. (*Project member*).
- 2016-2017 Budsjetstøtte og oppnåelse av politiske mål for landbruket [Budget Support and the Achievement of Political Goals for Agriculture]. (*Project member*).
- 2016-2018 Rurale lokalsamfunn: mellom livskraft og utarming (RURSAM) [Rural Communities: Between Vitality and Depletion]. (*Project member*).
- 2015-2018 SALSA: Small Farms, Small Food Businesses and Sustainable Food Security. (*Project member*).
- 2015-2019 Landbruk og bønder i endring - mellom økonomi, politiske skift og grønne trender [Agriculture and Farmers in Transition – Between Economy, Political Shifts, and Green Trends]. (*Project member*).
- 2015-2017 Endringsstudier i Snøhettaområdet 2014-2017: Villrein, ferdsel og forvaltning [Change Studies in the Snøhetta Area 2014–2017: Wild Reindeer, Traffic, and Management]. (*Project member*).

Other professional experiences

- 2024 Reviewer for Acta Sociologica.
- 2021-2024 External sensor, Research Methods in the Social Sciences (SOS1002), Department of Sociology and Political Science.

- 2021-2025 Member of the user group for microdata.no, a platform for statistical analyses of population-wide register data. The role is to provide input and feedback on new features, methods, and variables.
- 2020 Member of the research group 'Migration and mobility', which is a network and discussion arena for researchers at the Department of Sociology and Political Science, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).
- 2020 Reviewer for the Norwegian journal "Tidsskriftet Utmark".
- 2020 External sensor, Bachelor thesis in Sociology, Department of Sociology and Political Science, NTNU, Trondheim. 2020.
- 2019 External sensor, Bachelor thesis in Sociology, Department of Sociology and Political Science, NTNU, Trondheim. 2019.
- 2019 Member of the Local Organizing Committee for European Society for Rural Sociology Conference 2019 (ESRS), Trondheim. June 25-28, 2019.
- 2018 External sensor in the subject «Rettferdighet, sosial ulikhet og undervisning i samfunnsfag» [Justice, social inequality and education in social studies] (MGLU2107), Department of Teacher Education, NTNU, Trondheim. 2018.