
Empirical Theology & Postcolonial Theory

10. – 12. April 2024

University of Siegen
Campus Unteres Schloss (US-S) Seminar Center, Psychology
Street Address: Obergraben 25
(the ugly building right hand to the nice one 😊)

Wednesday, 10. April 2024

11.30 *Registration desk open*

12.00 *finger food*

13.00 Opening

13.30 – 15.00 Emmanuel Lartey (Emory University, Atlanta, USA) - US-S 002

"Lived Religion": The Kpeehe of empirical and postcolonial theological endeavors

Response: Suvi-Maria Saarelainen (Joensuu, Finland)

15.00 – 15.30 *coffee break*

15.30 – 16.30 Collegial Sessions

US-S 002	US-S 001	US-S 0101	US-S 0102
	CS 1 Moderation: Lluís Oviedo	CS 2 Moderation: Mandy Robbins	CS 3 Moderation: Francesco Zaccharia
	Types of Religious Education, Post-colonial Theology and Its Impact. An empirical study among High School Students in Tobelo, North Moluccas, Indonesia (Handi Hadi-witanto)	‘Orientalist’ and ‘Occidental’ stereotypes in postcolonial theological research. Researching yoga in churches (Elisabeth Tveito Johnsen, Kristin Graff-Kallevåg)	Christian organizations in the field of refugee aid: Examining the role of religious beliefs for the generation of social trust (Alexander Unser)
	Postcolonial empirical research and the uneasiness of enduring struggles. Wrestling with conflicting voices and questions on normativity (Annemie Dillen)	Characteristics of Ordinary Theology (Winnie-Lotta Weghaus & Ulrich Riegel)	Connections between religion, authority and spirituality from the perspective of Finnish older adults (Jonna Ojalammi, Heidi Toivanen & Suvi-Maria Saarelainen)

16.45 – 18.00 Symposia

US-S 002	US-S 001	US-S 0101	US-S 0102
Symposion 1	Symposion 2		Symposion 3
Role of Congregations in Reforming Power Structures (Kobus Schoeman, KJ Pali, Cobus van Wyngaard, Lourens Bosman, Pieter van der Walt)	Food and Faith from Local to Global: Critical Lived Theology and Faith-Based Food Assistance (Anna Sofia Salonen, Marjukka Laiho, Rosa Huotari)		Religion and Migration (Britta Konz, Manfred Pirner, Marcus Pentthin, Daniel Engel, Ulrich Riegel)

Thursday, 11. April 2024

08.30 – 10.00 Tone Stangeland Kaufman (MF Norwegian School of Theology, Religion and Society, Oslo, Norway) - US-S 002
Included but Indecent? Postcolonial approaches to methodologies and epistemologies in empirical and qualitative inquiries
 Response: Carl Sterkens (Nijmegen, The Netherlands)

10.00 – 10.30 *coffee break*

10.30 – 12.00 Collegial Sessions

US-S 002	US-S 001	US-S 0101	US-S 0102
CS 4	CS 5	CS 6	CS 7
Moderation: Sarah Demmrich	Moderation: Paul Vermeer	Moderation: Francis-Vincent Anthony	Moderation: Auli Vähäkangas
Three Modes of Co-Theologizing: Possibilities and Power of “With” in Lived Theology (Marjukka Laiho)	Who Do You Think You Are? A theological reflection on a visit to the Anglican diocese of Mauritius, my mother’s land (Andrew Dunlop)	Teaching religion in secondary schools: Does it still make sense? (Lluis Oviedo)	Importance of Reflectivity for the Position of the Researcher (Suvi-Maria Saarelainen)
Mental Health Stigma in Turkish Minority Group in Germany: Are Mental Health Disorders seen as a result of weakening faith or as a tool of strengthening faith? (Havagül Akçe)	Citizenship education in Dutch textbooks of Islamic Religious Education (Kamel Essabane)	The role of catechesis for the faith formation of the adults: A path to deepened faith of the adults in the archdiocese of Bangalore (Francis X. Joseph)	Sisters on a Mission (Jane McBride)
Finnish older adults making meaning out of the covid-19-pandemic and Russia's invasion to Ukraine (Jonna Olajammi & Suvi-Maria Saarelainen)	The Promise of Post-Colonial Catholicism: An Empirical Practical Theology (Bryan Froehle & Sean Thomas)	High religiosity and sustainability. An Empirical Study of Attitudes and Behavior of Highly Religious Christians (Tobias Faix)	The impact of body language on position taking A qualitative study on classroom communication with focus on non-verbal communication (Sarah Delling)

12.15 – 14.30 *lunch & break*

14.30 – 16.00 Collegial Sessions

US-S 002	US-S 001	US-S 0101	US-S 0102
CS 8	CS 9	CS 10	CS 11
Moderation: Bryan Froehle	Moderation: David Walker	Moderation: Claudia Gärtner	Moderation: Konstantin Lindner
Postcolonial Theology and its impact on attitudes towards suicide in Nigerian digital media (Collins Nwafor)	Culture / Cultures as a context of reference in religious education. Postcolonial inquiries on the conceptualisation of “culture” in (empirical) research on religious education (Konstantin Lindner)	E pluribus unum? Construction a typology of contemporary Dutch Evangelicals (Paul Vermeer)	Decolonizing knowledge generation processes on Latin American religion. Methodological considerations (Catalina Cerda-Planas)
Postcolonial theory from the perspective of the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage (Berenika Seryczyńska)	A Consideration of Mexico-United States of America Border Migrants in the Context of Postcolonial Residue and Empirical Theology (Raymond Webb)	Diversity and Divides: An Exploration of Christian Engagement among Ethnic Chinese in Britain (Yinxuan Huang)	Tools of the Discourse Network Analysis as tools of Contextualising European Theology!? (Dara Straub)
Empowering Church Communities Struggling with Poverty in Dedza Diocese, Malawi: A Methodological Reevaluation Essentializing Systematic Empirical Research Approaches within Pastoral-Theological Knowledge Systems Aimed at Flourishing (Peter N. White)	Postcolonial theology as decolonial and/or intercultural: an empirical approach (Francis-Vincent Anthony)	Positionalities in Practical Theological research (Auli Vähäkangas)	Exploring Religiosity Beyond (Western) Christianity: An Empirical-Psychological Perspective and Implications for Application (Sarah Demmrich)

16.00 – 16.30 *coffee break*

16.30 – 17.30 Business Meeting - US-S 002

18.00 – 19.30 *conference dinner*

Friday, 12. April 2024

08.30 – 10.00 Jaco Dreyer (Pretoria, South Africa) - US-S 002

Empirical theology at the crossroads: a decolonial reflection on responsible research practice

Response: Sabrina Müller (Bonn, Germany)

10.00 – 10.30 *coffee break*

10.30 – 12.00 Collegial Sessions

US-S 002	US-S 001	US-S 0101	US-S 0102
CS 8	CS 9	CS 10	CS 11
Moderation: Kristin Graff-Kallevåg	Moderation: Tobias Faix	Moderation: Raymond Webb	Moderation: Sarah Delling
Post-colonial reflection on the relationship between spiritual growth in township congregations and impact in the wider community of their own context (Pali Khamadi)	Social Conservatism without Christianity in Central and Eastern Europe and Christians: Old Victims, New Oppressors? (Michal Opatrný)	What about God in Empirical Theology? (Theo Pleizier & Sabrina Müller)	Negotiating cultural identities in post-colonized communities: Social and psychological issues. (Wakil A. Azekun)
Gen Z As Religious Agents. An Ethnographic Study of Religious Agency in Finnish Confirmation Training (Heidi Toivonen)	Reported levels of purpose in life among a population of British Humanists (Mandy Robbins & Gareth Longden)	Christian Influencing on Instagram. (Patrick Todjeras, Maike Ritzer, Sabrina Müller, Aline Knapp)	Decolonizing Love in African Theology: A Moral Imperative (William Orbih)
Learning from an awful legacy: Theological lessons from a Church endowment fund's response to Transatlantic Chattel Slavery (David Walker)	Religion in right-wing ecological discourse. A racism-critical content analysis of a new right periodical (Claudia Gärtner)	Design of educational practices to arouse a hopeful future for each and every student (Theo van der Zee)	

12.15 Farewell

12.30 *snacks*