

## UNIVERSITÄT REGENSBURG

At the Faculty of Catholic Theology a professorship is to be filled at the earliest possible date in

### **Transregional History of Religions: Processes of Formation and Interaction among Religious Movements since Late Antiquity**

The position at grade W3 (full professorship/chair) is permanent, with the legal status of a civil servant for life (Beamtenverhältnis auf Lebenszeit).

The University of Regensburg is concentrating and institutionalising Area Studies (Regional Studies) research in an emerging Department for Interdisciplinary and Multiscalar Area Studies (DIMAS). This department advances the theoretical and methodological development of Area Studies; it emerges from the Center for International and Transnational Area Studies (CITAS), which was founded in 2017 as a platform for Regional Studies in Regensburg. DIMAS strengthens the existing regional foci of Area Studies in Regensburg—Southeastern-, Eastern-, and Western Europe, North and Latin America—or complements them with research in additional extended areas. As an Area Studies institution, it deals with central questions of the constitution of the modern world in its various regional manifestations. The successful candidate is expected to work actively on the development of this department.

The position in Transregional History of Religions thus forms a bridge both in terms of content and structure. At the same time, it will also serve to strengthen research within the interdisciplinary groups of the Faculty of Catholic Theology, particularly the Centre for Advanced Studies “Beyond Canon: Heterotopias of Religious Authority in Late Antique Christianity,” which deals with the significance of apocryphal traditions in literature, ritual, and material culture.

This professorship is to cover, both in research and teaching, the area of History of Religions in transregional perspectives and with an eye toward the formation and interaction of religious movements since Late Antiquity. The “Axial Age of the History of Religions” (Guy Stroumsa) is of crucial importance for the *longue durée* of the History of Religions. Intellectual and cultural diversity cannot be understood without attention to the influence of religious movements. Historically shaped mentalities, multiple and fluid identities, internal and external fault-lines and conflicts are also the result of centuries-long interactions between various religious movements. But these do not occur as geographically uniform or historically static dimensions; rather, they demonstrate complex regional differentiation and develop in diverse exchange, conflict, and hybridisation. “Shared space” and the related “shared” or “entangled history” are thus decisive categories of interpretation.

We seek a Theologian, Philologist, Historian, or scholar of Religious Studies with broad knowledge of sources representing a diversity of religious movements, particularly those involved with the transitional period (from late antiquity to the middle ages) that was foundational in the formation of European and Near Eastern cultures. We are particularly interested in applicants who can offer a highly skilled perspective on the internal diversity of the dominant religions (Christianity, Judaism, and/or Islam) as well as on marginalised and sub-cultural movements (e.g. Gnosticism, Manichaeism, etc.). In addition to historical and philological competence (including in eastern languages and literatures), strengths in cultural and religious studies, including especially their theoretical reflection—alongside a theological sensibility—are expected. A degree in Catholic Theology

is not required; teaching in the required areas of the Catholic theological curriculum is not anticipated. Readiness and ability to seek external funding (particularly in group-proposals) is expected, as is strong collegiality and the ability to engage in interdisciplinary work.

Basic qualifications for application are: a completed relevant course of study, a relevant doctoral degree, pedagogical aptitude, a particular ability in research (which will, as a rule, be demonstrated through the quality of the doctoral work), as well as additional research-oriented accomplishments (which will be demonstrated through a "Habilitation" or comparable post-doctoral work that may also be adduced either outside of a university setting or in the context of a junior-professorship).

The University of Regensburg is particularly committed to compatibility of family and working life (for more information, see [www.uni-regensburg.de/chancengleichheit](http://www.uni-regensburg.de/chancengleichheit)). In order to meet our mandate of equal opportunity and to increase the number of women professors, qualified women researchers are expressly encouraged to apply.

Disabled persons will be given preference, provided they are essentially equally qualified.

The civil service requirements for an appointment are governed by the provisions of the BayBG and the BayHSchPG. The age limit of Art. 10 (3) BayHSchPG must be observed.

This is the English translation of a German job advertisement published by the Universität Regensburg at [www.uni-regensburg.de/universitaet/stellenausschreibungen/](http://www.uni-regensburg.de/universitaet/stellenausschreibungen/). Only the original German text is legally binding.

Applications including a statement of interest, curriculum vitae, list of publications, teaching experience, and a statement of max. 2 pages about visions for future research should be sent until March 15, 2021 by e-mail in single pdf file to the Dean of the Faculty of Catholic Theology ([kath.dekanat@theologie.uni-regensburg.de](mailto:kath.dekanat@theologie.uni-regensburg.de)).

The data privacy statement can be found at <https://www.uni-regensburg.de/datenschutz/>.