

Curriculum Vitae

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Institutional information

Full professor for the Study of Religions
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Lucerne
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Institutional responsibilities

2010 – 2018	Vice-chancellor for the advancement of research and president of the committee of research, University of Lucerne
2010 – 2012	Founding member of the board of the Graduate School Lucerne, Ph.D. program of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
2007 – 2009	Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
2004 – 2007	Vice dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
2002 – 2006	Member of the board of the committee of research, University of Lucerne

Employment history

since 2001	Professor for the Study of Religions, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Lucerne, Switzerland
2000 – 2003	Research fellow, University of Hannover, Germany
1999 – 2000	Associate professor for the History of Religions, University of Bremen,
1998 – 1999	Research fellow, University of Hannover, Germany
1992 – 2001	Lecturer in the Dept. for the Study of Religions, University of Hannover

University education

1999	Habilitation Study of Religions at the University of Leipzig, Germany
1994 – 1997	Post-doctoral studies, University of Leipzig, Germany
1993	Ph.D. in the Study of Religions at the University of Hannover, Germany
1988	MA in the Study of Religions, University of Marburg, Germany, prior studies at the universities of Marburg, Berlin, and London

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Research and teaching focus

Immigration, religion, and social incorporation; diaspora studies; religious pluralism and civil society; Buddhist and Hindu traditions in the West

Membership in academic boards

President of the Swiss Association for the Study of Religions, since 2018.

Member of the Board of Trustees of the Swiss National Science Foundations, 2010 to 2018, and member of the SNSF evaluation board for Doc.CH stipends, 2013 to 2021.

Member of the scientific advisory board of the Centre for Global Migration Studies, Göttingen University, since 2020.

Member of the scientific advisory board of the research project YoBeOn, University of Vienna, since 2020.

Member of the university's research priority "Religion and Social Incorporation in Europe", funded by the University of Lucerne, 2009 to 2016.

Co-editor of the peer-reviewed *Journal of Global Buddhism* (online) since 2000.

Member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, London, since 1999.

Approved research projects

“Engaging for the Common Good in Italy. Studying the Effects of Public funding of Buddhist Organisations on Initiating Civic Engagement Activities”, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, 2020 to 2024 (1 PhD position, CHF 299'000,-).

“Salafism in the German speaking part of Switzerland”, funded by the National Action Plan of the Federal Department of Justice and Police, 2019 to 2022 (3 postdoc positions, CHF 294'000,-).

“Biographic processes of religious re-interpretation: Vietnamese Buddhist young adults in Switzerland and Germany,” funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, 2016 to May 2020 (1 PhD position, CHF 222'000,-).

„Imams, Rapper, Cybermuftis. Islamic authorities, Muslim youth, and societal cohesion in Switzerland,” funded by Foundation Mercator Switzerland, 2014 to 2016 (three post-doc positions, CHF 412.000,-).

“Swiss Muslim Youth and Civic Key Persons,” funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, 2013 to 2014 (three positions, CHF 165.000,-).

“Civic Engagement in immigrant religious communities: Muslim and Hindu associations in Switzerland and Austria,” funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, 2012 to 2015 (two Ph.D. positions, CHF 331.000,-).

“Muslim Youth Groups and Engendering Civic Social Capital in Swiss Society”, funded by the Jacobs Foundation 2011 to 2012 (three post-doc positions, CHF 385.000).

“Public domain and societal incorporation of religious minorities: Modelling developments,” funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, 2008 to 2011 (two Ph.D. positions, CHF 366.700,-)

“Immigrant Religion, Public Space and Change of Gender Roles”, National research program 58, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, 2007 bis 2010 (two PhD positions, CHF 338.000,-).