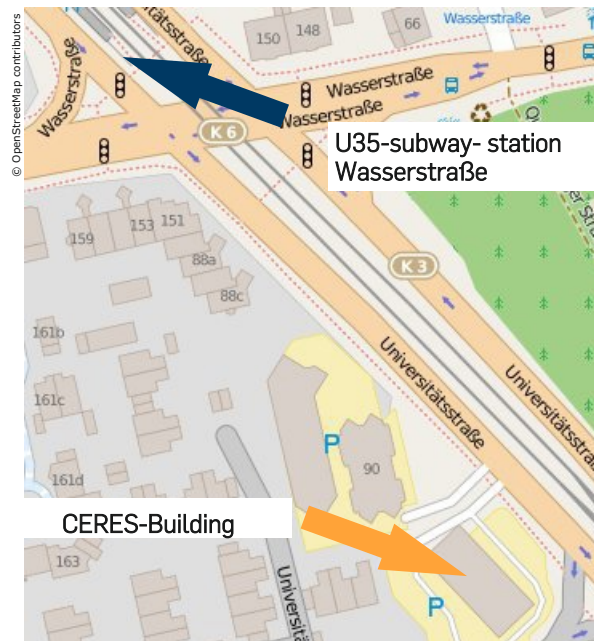


## WAYS TO CERES

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT:** Take the subway line U35 from the main station Bochum in the direction of *Hustadt* and get off at the stop *Wasserstraße*. Cross at the traffic light (right side), then pass residential buildings and walk for about 200 m in the direction of the subway until you reach the CERES building at Universitätsstr. 90a.

**BY CAR:** The fastest way is via the Bochum/Witten freeway junction, where the A43 and A44 meet. Then take the *Bochum-Querenburg* exit and follow the signs to *Bochum Zentrum* until you reach the Universitätsstrasse/Wasserstrasse intersection. At the traffic lights turn left and after approx. 200 m you will reach Universitätsstraße 90a. Parking spaces are available both in front of and behind the building.



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# RELIGIOUS SOCIAL FORMS IN AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY YESTERDAY AND TODAY

March 22-24, 2023 | CERES | Conference Room *Ruhrpott*

Hosts: Dr. Maren Freudenberg (Bochum) &  
Prof. Dr. Astrid Reuter (Münster)

Co-Hosted by the Cluster of Excellence Religion and Politics,  
Universität Münster, Germany



ReligionundPolitik  
EXZELLENZCLUSTER | WWU MÜNSTER

## RELIGIOUS SOCIAL FORMS IN AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Workshop to be hosted on March 22-24, 2023 at the Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany

Christianity has long been the dominant religious tradition both in North and in Latin America. Internally highly diverse, it includes Catholicism as well as various Protestant traditions, such as Pentecostalism, Evangelicalism, the Mainline and, between these, many intersecting and overlapping currents.

Despite this breadth, Christianity evinces structural similarities in how adherents organize to practice their faith: whether within large, bureaucratic denominations and their individual congregations (organizations); in smaller communities within or outside of religious organizations (groups); in flexible online and offline formations with various nodes and porous boundaries that integrate diverse actors, roles and identities (networks); in highly dynamic, not yet institutionalized communities pursuing specific religious goals (movements); in the context of larger gatherings, such as religious conventions (events); in the context of religious fairs and exhibitions (markets); in one-on-one religious interaction, such as praying together (dyads); or, more generally, in broadly shared religious understandings and expectations (institutions). This spectrum of social forms in the newer sociology of religion offers an alternative approach to existing concepts such as church and sect (Weber), mysticism (Troeltsch), denomination (Niebuhr), and cult (Stark/Bainbridge), and resonates with more recent discussions in the sociology of organizations about where to draw the line between religious movement and formal organization.

The aim of the workshop is to (1) bring together a range of empirical examples that demonstrate the plurality of Christianity in the Americas in terms of its social forms in past and present; (2) critically consider the potential of theories of social forms in the sociology of religion for analyzing broader changes in the American religious landscape; and (3) explore how a given Christian tradition's dominant social form(s) may impact its ability to sustainably integrate into the American religious landscape.

### PROGRAM

#### Wednesday, March 22, 2023

- 6.30 p.m. **Meet in Ibis hotel lobby to walk to dinner venue (10 min. walk)**
- 7.00 p.m. **Kick-off dinner & networking event**

#### Thursday, March 23, 2023

- 9.30 a.m. **Welcome and introduction to the workshop**
- 10.15 a.m. In the Capital of Closed Churches: Rethinking Heritage Churches as Social Entrepreneurship in Québec (Hillary Kaell, Montreal)
- 11.30 a.m. **Coffee break**
- 11.45 a.m. 'I am happy to be Catholic'. The Catholic Charismatic Renewal and the Dynamics of the Religious Field in Brazil (Astrid Reuter, Münster)
- 1.00 p.m. **Lunch**
- 2.00 p.m. Pentecostalism in Late Capitalist Guatemala (Virginia Garrard, Austin, TX)
- 3.15 p.m. **Coffee break**
- 3.30 p.m. Forever and Ever: Marriage in the Temple of Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints as a Practice of Inclusion and Exclusion (Marie-Therese Mäder, München)
- 4.45 p.m. **Coffee break**
- 5.00 p.m. Is the Christian Right a (New) Religious Movement? From the Moral Majority to Trumpism (Sebastian Schüler, Leipzig)

- 6.15 p.m. Transfer to dinner venue by public transit
- 6.45 p.m. **Dinner**

#### Friday, March 24, 2023

- 9.00 a.m. Megachurches as (Counter-)Evidence for Secularization? (Jens Schlamelcher, Bochum)
- 10.15 a.m. **Coffee break**
- 10.30 a.m. "Going Beyond a Building." Digital Social Forms as Identity Work in an Evangelical Megachurch (Ariane Kovac, Leipzig)
- 11.45 p.m. **Coffee break**
- 12.00 noon From "Generalized" to "Negotiated" Exchange? The Quantification of Religious Commitments and the Rise of a Religious Market Logic in American Evangelicalism (Insa Pruiskens, Bremen)
- 1.15 p.m. **Lunch**
- 2.15 p.m. The Social Forms of Charismatic Christianity: A Key to Global Growth? (Maren Freudenberg, Bochum)
- 3.30 p.m. Information on anthology with Transcript and final remarks (with the assistance of Allegra Goldstrass and Lisa Wolf)
- 4.00 p.m. **End of workshop**

