

# Winter Term | Frankfurt POLY Lectures on 2023/24 | Space and Religion II



Church Interior with Christ Preaching to a Congregation, attributed to Cornelis van Dalem and Jan van Wechelen (1545–1570), Source: <https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/nl/collectie/SK-A-1991>

## When?

Tuesdays,  
18:15–19:45 CET

## Where?

Campus Westend,  
Seminarhaus, SH 1.108

## Organized by

The POLY Research Group  
Dr Andreea Badea, Dr Bruno  
Boute, and Michael Leemann

## Director

Prof Dr Birgit Emich  
Chair of Early Modern History,  
Goethe University Frankfurt

All talk of religion implies talk of space; churches, mosques and synagogues all testify to this fact. But the connection between religion and space goes beyond mere architecture, with the spatiality being of fundamental importance to religion. In a series of lectures over the course of the winter terms of 2022/23 and 2023/24, the Frankfurt research group 'Polycentricity and Plurality of Premodern Christianities' (POLY) will be exploring the spatial embeddedness of medieval and early modern Christianities, pursuing a host of questions about the often-contested spatiality of religion: To what extent, for example, did early modern piety rely on private spaces? For whom did churches serve as sanctuaries in the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Atlantic? And how did religious practices that were aimed at the commemoration of extreme climate and weather events shape medieval urban spaces? Besides addressing physical spaces, we will also turn to abstract spaces and examine, among other things, how the proportional representation of human bodies and objects in space were related to Reformation controversies over images. In a reflexive mode, too, we will discuss how notions of space have implicitly and explicitly moulded our understanding of religion, and how they continue to exert an influence on the way historians today write the history of religion.

We will be delighted to welcome to the POLY Lectures anyone who is interested to join. The fourteen lectures, held in German and English, will be given by a select group of internationally-renowned scholars.

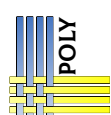
The lectures can be attended in person or online. To receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting, please contact [info@poly-unifrankfurt.de](mailto:info@poly-unifrankfurt.de)

## Programme

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|---------------|---|---------------|---|
| <b>Oct 24</b> | <b>Katherine Hill (Birkbeck, University of London)</b><br><i>Ties across Time and Space: Genealogy, Geographies and Mennonite Diasporas from 1500 to the Present Day</i>                                  | <b>Dec 12</b> | <b>Martin Bauch (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig)</b><br><i>Religious Marking of Disaster Spaces: Late-Medieval Processions and Inscriptions in Erfurt and Frankfurt as Memory Strategies for Climate-Induced Natural Extreme Events</i> |
| <b>Oct 31</b> | <b>Mette Birkedel Bruun (University of Copenhagen)</b><br><i>Privacy in Early Modern Piety: Spaces, Practices, and Devotional Auxiliaries</i>   | <b>Dec 19</b> | <b>Johannes Pahlitzsch (University of Mainz)</b><br><i>Concepts of Space and Orthodoxy beyond Byzantium</i>   |
| <b>Nov 07</b> | <b>Cecilia Cristellon (Goethe University Frankfurt)</b><br><i>Justice in the Church: Legal Procedures and Conflict Resolution within Sacred Spaces (Italy, 16<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> Centuries)</i> | <b>Jan 09</b> | <b>Jeanne Nuechterlein (University of York)</b><br><i>Albrecht Dürer's Studies of Measurement and the Early Reformation</i>   |
| <b>Nov 14</b> | <b>Beat Kümin (University of Warwick)</b><br><i>Pfarrei und Pluralität – Lokale Konstellationen des Religiösen in der Vormoderne</i>  | <b>Jan 16</b> | <b>Thomas Wallnig (University of Vienna)</b><br><i>Johannes von Nepomuk und die hagiographische Integration der Monarchia Austriaca: Religiös konnotierter Raum im Kompositstaat</i>  |
| <b>Nov 21</b> | <b>Adina Ruiu (Independent Scholar)</b><br><i>An Archipelago of Missions: Jesuit Networks in the Ottoman Aegean</i>   | <b>Jan 23</b> | <b>Katherine Gerbner (University of Minnesota)</b><br><i>The Space and Time of Slave Rebellions</i>   |
| <b>Nov 28</b> | <b>Karin Vélez (Macalester College)</b><br><i>Safe Spaces or Dire Straits: Catholic Church Buildings as Tenuous Refuge in Early Modern Atlantic Frontier Zones</i>  | <b>Jan 30</b> | <b>Violet Soen (KU Leuven)</b><br><i>Borderlands in Early Modern Catholicism</i>  |
| <b>Dec 05</b> | <b>Irina Saladin (University of Koblenz)</b><br><i>Space and Religion in Amazonia: Cultural Contact and Its Influence on Jesuit Cartography</i>   | <b>Feb 06</b> | <b>Mathilde Monge (University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès)</b><br><i>Mapping Early Modern Diasporas. Minorities, Translocal Societies and Shifts in Scales</i>  |

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**POLYCENTRICITY AND  
PLURALITY OF PREMODERN  
CHRISTIANITIES**



**DYNAMICS OF  
RELIGION**

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Forschungsgemeinschaft