EBERHARD KARLS UNIVERSITÄT TÜBINGEN

Division V
International Office

Tübingen - Virtual Intercultural Program

October 9 – December 15, 2023

Course title	Spiritual Humanism as a World Ethos
Course content	Renegade Catholic theologian Hans Küng (1929-2021) engaged in pioneering work in intercultural dialogue at the University of Tübingen. Küng's book 'Projekt Weltethos' (1990) launched a series of initiatives at the Parliament of the World's Religions, the United Nations and beyond over the following three decades. In 2012, the University of Tübingen launched a 'Weltethos Institut' with the aim of furthering Küng's legacy. One of Küng's international allies, the Confucian philosopher Tu Weiming, was also invited to deliver the opening address at the University of Tübingen's new China Centre in 2016. In this course we compare Tu's idea of 'Spiritual Humanism' with Küng's 'Weltethos' approach to 21st-century cultural globalisation.
Learning objectives	By the end of the course, students should have received a broad introduction to the work of Hans Küng and Tu Weiming. They should be able to explain the main similarities and differences between Küng's 'Weltethos' and Tu's 'Spiritual Humanism'.
Method of instruction	Reading-based discussions
Academic hours	2 hours/week on Zoom + 1 hour/week on learning platform
Course requirements	English language skills, general interest in philosophical, theological and intercultural issues. Knowledge of German/Chinese useful but not essential.
Credits & Grading	4 ECTS Short weekly oral presentations, final essay.
Course language	English
Number of places	Minimum 20
Course instructor	Dr. Jonathan Keir
Schedule	Course takes place Thursdays at 8.00pm (German Time) First lesson on Thursday, October 12, at 8.00pm (German Time)