

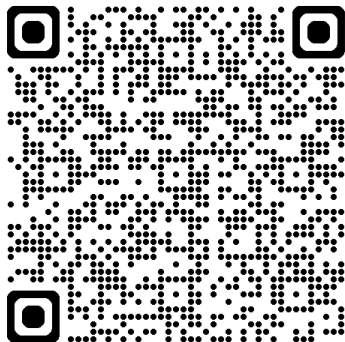
Conference Locations



Fürstenzimmer, Castle Tübingen

Burgsteige 11
72070 Tübingen

More Information



Contact

Organized by:

Center for Religion, Culture and Society (CRCS)
- University of Tübingen
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- University of Toronto

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Funded by:



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE

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TÜBINGEN

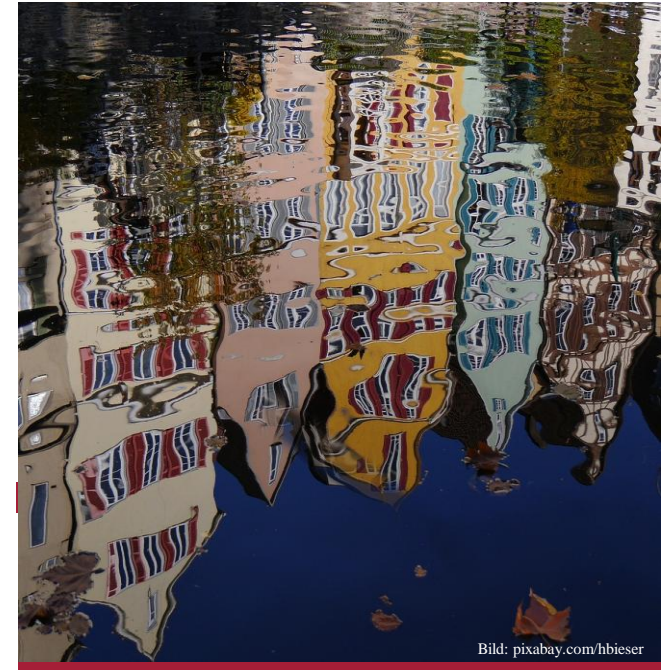


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The Study of Religion: Pasts, Presents, & Futures

Tübingen-Toronto Workshop
26 - 27 May 2025
at University of Tübingen



Study of Religion
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Goal

The Department for the Study of Religion at the University of Toronto and the Center for Religion, Culture, and Society at the University of Tübingen are two of the premier centers for the study of religion in the world. They have already had many long-standing collaborations between individual researchers over the years, with several colleagues who have spent significant time at both institutions.

With this workshop, we aim to build on these collaborations by bringing together the interdisciplinary and multi-methodological resources of the two centers, including historical, ethnographic, digital, and philological approaches. Based on shared reflections on the history of the study of religion in each of our countries, we seek to strengthen our connections by establishing an institutional partnership.

Together, we will chart a future for research and teaching in this changing, and ever-relevant, field. The workshop will be a first step in fostering a longer-term international exchange and collaboration hub that brings together research professors and graduate students in the study of religion from Canada, Germany, and beyond.

Monday, May 26, 2025

01:00 pm Opening and Introductions
Monique Scheer & Pamela Klassen

02:15 pm Panel 1: Reckonings & the Study of Religion Canada and Germany in Comparative Perspectives
Amira Mittermaier & Isabel Laack

This panel will examine histories of the field, foregrounding the ways that interreligious conflicts, colonialism, racism, and other fields of power have impacted its development. The panel will also address how multi-methodological commitments in the study of religion shape the possibilities and avenues of reckoning.

04:00 pm Panel 2: The Past in the Present: Originalism as Innovation
Holger Zellentin & Walid Saleh

This panel focuses on the persistence of “origins” as a theme within religious traditions and within the study of religion, with a special focus on textual study.

06:30 pm Group Dinner at the Restaurant

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

09:30 am Visit and Tour of the Museum Collections in Schloss Hohentübingen,
including archaeological, ethnographic and classical collections
Pamela Klassen & Gabi Alex

11:00 am Discussion at the Fürstenzimmer

12:00 pm Group Lunch

01:30 pm Panel 3: Religion and the Digital Humanities
John Marshall & Thomas Thiemeyer

This panel will consider the role of digital tools for research and dissemination with the humanities, with a focus on changings methods and theories in relation to the study of religion. The panel will address questions of “big data”, digital audiences, and digital storytelling, as well discuss the challenges and opportunities of working at universities where AI research is a major focus and priority.

02:45 pm Panel 4: Futures for the Study of Religion: Research, Relevance, and Responsibility
Bart Scott & Carola Lorea

This panel will feature presentations by graduate students from the two universities, with a focus on their perspectives on futures for the study of religion. Topics may include: what does it mean to be multi-methodological in the study of religion today? What topics are on the horizon, or newly returning to view? What are the requirements and responsibilities of research in a digital age? What do they see as the relevance of research and teaching in the “study of religion” for future generations?

04:30 pm Closing conversation and next steps

06:30 pm Group Dinner at the Restaurant