

Heinrich Wilhelm Schäfer

Prof. Dr. theol. habil., Dr. phil. (rer. soc.)

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Curriculum vitae (January 2015)

Year of birth: 1955

Professional training

Academic degrees

2002, Berlin Dr. phil (rer. soc., Ph.D. in Sociology), Humboldt University,
2002, Bochum Habil. theol. (post-doc. in Systematic Theology), Ruhr-University,
1991, Bochum Dr. theol. (Ph.D. in Systematic Theology and Ecumenism), Ruhr-University,
1983 and 1991, Bielefeld 1st and 2nd theological exams, Protestant Church of Westphalia (EkvW).

Studies

1976 to 1983 Protestant Theology. Emphasis on hermeneutics, dogmatics, ethics, New Testament,
Göttingen, Third World-theologies; philosophy and social sciences.
Tübingen

Modern languages

German, English, Spanish (business fluent), Portuguese (fluent), French (basic).

Ancient languages

Latin, Greek, Hebrew.

Academic teaching

Professorships

- Since 2006 Bielefeld
- **Protestant Theology** (Systematic Theology, Church History) and **Sociology of Religion** at *Bielefeld University*, Germany, Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology as well as Faculty of Sociology,
- 2003 to 2006 San José, Costa Rica
- **Religious Studies** at *Universidad Nacional*, Costa Rica, Escuela EcuMénica de Ciencias de la Religión, Facultad de Filosofía y Letras,
- 1995 to 2003 Costa Rica, Brazil
Bolivia, Cuba, Mexico
Guatemala, Panama
Peru, Venezuela
- **Systematic Theology** and **Social Sciences** at *Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana* (officially recognized private University with a continent-wide network of partners. Attendance and correspondence courses with a contextual theological approach).

Lecturerships

- 2003 to 2006 Hannover
- **Religious Studies** (Systematic), University of Hannover, Seminar for Religious Studies,
- 1992 to 1994, Bochum
- **Ecumenical Theology**, Ecumenical Institute, Ruhr-University.

Para-university advanced teaching

- Collaboration in the development of the *European Center of University Studies for Senior Citizens* (EZUS).

Research

- Bielefeld University
since 2006
- For more details on research, please, see list on publications and research*
- Team based projects (German Research Foundation, DFG):**
- Religious [faith](#) and social presence: Pentecostal movement and other religious actors in Guatemala and Nicaragua (2011-2014).
 - The [Ethos](#) of Religious Peace Builders in Bosnia-Herzegovina (2008-2011).
- Single dissertations with input in research team**
- Inappropriate [Spirits](#). Religious Tastes and Styles among Middle Class Pentecostals in Buenos Aires (concluded: summa cum laude).
 - Religious credibility under fire. A praxeological analysis of the determinants of religious legitimacy in postwar Bosnia and Herzegovina (concluded: summa cum laude; Research Award of the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen).
 - [Faith](#), identity and community in the Mega-City of Mexico (ongoing).
 - [El K'epiri](#) - the marginal 'subject' from the perspective of Theology of Liberation and urban marginal literature (ongoing).
 - The [Transnationalization](#) of Guatemalan Churches in the United States (ongoing).
 - The [Making](#) of religious peace-builders in Guatemala (ongoing).
 - Is there a 'Field' of Social Business? (ongoing).
 - [Transmigration](#) in Mexico: Religious social aid networks around the migratory routes of Central American women and children migrants in Mexico (ongoing).
- Single research (without third party funding)**
- HabitusAnalysis. Praxeological epistemology, theory and methodology (ongoing).
 - Pentecostalism in Latin America and Worldwide: [Bertelsmann](#) Religion Monitor 2008 (concluded, see publications 2009, 2010).
 - Practical logic of [fundamentalisms](#) (concluded, see publications, 2008).
- Cooperation in joint large scale projects**
- *Entangled [Americas](#). The Americas as Space of Entanglements*. Funding: Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) (ongoing).
 - [Signatures](#) of Threat. Dynamics of Conflict, Violence, and Control in an International Perspective. Interdisciplinary Working Group at Bielefeld University (ongoing).
 - E [Pluribus](#) Unum? Ethnic Identities in Transnational Integration Processes in the Americas. Center for Interdisciplinary Research, Bielefeld (2008-2009).
- Universidad Nacional
Universidad Bíblica
Latinoamericana,
Costa Rica, Geneva
1995 to 2003
- World religions in the process of globalization**
Cooperation in an international research group of the *World Council of Churches; Ecumenical Institute*, Bossey, Geneva, 1998-2002 (see publications: "New wars...." etc. In Julio de Santa Ana, 2005).
- Network-theory of religious identity**
Development of sociological theory and methodology (Dissertation in sociology; see publications: *Entwurf...*, 2003; also *Existe...*, 1999).
- Religion and theology as „practical logics“ (Bourdieu)**
Development of theory in theology and religious studies (Habilitation in theology; see publications *Praxis...*, 2004).
- Ruhr-University
Bochum
1984 to 1992
- History, contemporary politics and theology of the Presbyterian Church in Guatemala**
Commissioned by the *World Alliance of Reformed Churches*; field studies in Guatemala, 1985 (see publications: *Church identity...*, 1990).

Protestantism in Central America: history, social conditions and theological orientation

Focus on the Pentecostal Movement. Funded by *Evangelisches Studienwerk Villigst* (Protestant Academic Foundation) and *World Council of Churches*; field studies in Guatemala, Nicaragua and USA, 1983, 1985 and 1986 (see publications: *Protestantismus...*, 1992).

Scientific cooperation (international and national)

- Since 2006**
from Bielefeld with
Brazil, Argentina, Mexico,
Bosnia-Herzegovina,
Netherlands, Britain, USA
- International**
- *Universidade Metodista de São Paulo*, Brazil,
 - *Universidad de Buenos Aires*, Argentina,
 - *Universidad Rafael Landívar*, Guatemala,
 - *Universidad Centroamericana*, Nicaragua,
 - *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*, Mexico,
 - *University of Sarajevo*, Bosnia-Herzegovina,
 - *New York University*, USA,
 - *GloPent*, European Research Network on Global Pentecostalism, Great Britain,
 - Editorial Board, Social Science Section of *PentecoStudies*, Netherlands.
- Between
1992 and 2003
Germany, Switzerland,
Mexico, Brazil,
Costa Rica
- Courses, lectures, working groups etc. in collaboration with the following organizations:*
- *United Nations Population Fund* (UNFPA), Mexico,
 - *Consejo Latinoamericano de Iglesias* (CLAI), Ecuador,
 - *Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales* (FLACSO), Costa Rica,
 - *Instituto de Estudos da Religião* (ISER), Brazil,
 - *Departamento Ecuménico de Investigaciones* (DEI), Costa Rica,
 - *Ecumenical Institute Bossey*, World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland,
 - International Research Group on globalization and religion (1998-2002) and various consultations,
 - The Universities of Basel, Bochum, Cologne and Hamburg from base in Costa Rica.
- National (only current)**
- Heidelberg
- Interdisciplinary Research Group on Pentecostalism (*IAK [Pfingstbewegung](#)*, Heidelberg),
 - Research Network Religion and Conflict (*Forschungsverbund [Religion und Konflikt](#)*, FEst), Heidelberg.
- University of Bielefeld (only current):**
- Bielefeld
- *Center for the Interdisciplinary Research on Religion and Society* ([CIRRuS](#)), our own research platform the Bielefeld Theology and Religious Studies department,
 - *Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Conflict and Violence* ([IKG](#)),
 - *Center for InterAmerican Studies* ([CIAS](#)),
 - *Entangled [Americas](#)* (research group).

Recent international papers and conferences

Berlin, Buenos Aires Concepción, Frankfurt Gothenburg, Hamburg Louisville, Mexico City Mostar, Münster New York, Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Chile São Paulo, Sarajevo (among others)	<i>For details, please, see publications.</i> Papers, seminars, lectures, round tables etc. at international conferences and workshops by international scientific associations, universities and research institutions such as: Wissenschaftskolleg Berlin; Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Forschung (ZIF); Universidade Metodista de São Paulo; Universidad de Buenos Aires; Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; New York University; Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR); International Society for the Sociology of Religion (ISSR); Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutsche Lateinamerika-Forschung; International Sociological Association etc.
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International cooperation in development issues

Costa Rica, 1995-2003 Hannover, 1992-1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>German Embassy</i> roundtable for developmental cooperation,▪ <i>Lateinamerika Beratungsausschuss</i> (Latin America Counseling Committee) of <i>Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland</i> (German Protestant Church),▪ <i>Evangelische Stadtgemeinde Marl</i> (Cooperating Protestant Congregations) coordination of a partnership with the indigenous <i>Fundación Metodista de Desarrollo Integral, FUMEDI</i> in cooperation with <i>Food First Information and Action Network</i> (FIAN),
Marl/Guatemala 1989-1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>EIRENE Christliche Friedensdienste</i> (EIRENE Christian Services for Peace) project coordination in Nicaragua and fact finding missions in the other countries,▪ <i>EIRENE Christliche Friedensdienste</i> (EIRENE Christian Services for Peace) project finding mission in Nicaragua.
Neuwied/Nicaragua El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras 1980 and 1983	

Special trainings

2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Project Management, <i>Bielefeld University</i>,▪ Team Building, <i>Bielefeld University</i>,
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Problem-oriented Learning, <i>Bielefeld University</i>,
201	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Conflict Mediation, <i>German Society for Technical Cooperation (GtZ)</i>,
1989 to 1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pastoral Training, Moderation of Teams, Conflict Mediation, Rhetoric, and Gender Relations at the training program of the <i>Protestant Church of Westphalia (EKvW)</i>.

Expert assessments

Project evaluations have been issued at the request of:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>German Research Foundation</i> (DFG),▪ <i>Volkswagen Foundation</i>,▪ <i>German Foundation for Peace Research</i> (DSF),▪ <i>Swiss National Science Foundation</i> (SNF).
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Memberships in scientific societies and boards

Memberships
are being maintained
in the following societies:

Societies

- German Society for Religious Studies (*DVRW*),
- German Society for Sociology (*DGS*),
- German Society for Latin American Studies (*ADLAF*),
- International Society for the Sociology of Religion (*ISSR*),
- Research Network on Religion and Conflict (*FVRK*),
- Interdisciplinary Research Group on Pentecostalism (*IAK Pfingstbewegung*),
- European Research Network on Global Pentecostalism (*GloPent*),
- Latin American Network for Pentecostal Studies (*RELEP*).

Board

- Journal *PentecoStudies*, member of the board, social science section.
- CEEP Ediciones, Chile, specialized in literature by and about the Pentecostal movement in Latin America.
- Journal *Cultura y Religión*, Chile, member of the editorial board.

Fellowship

2011 to 2012 Research Fellowship at Lichtenberg Kolleg, University of Göttingen.

26.01.2015
Heinrich Wilhelm Schäfer