



Professor Dr. Bernd Schröder

Dekan der Theologischen Fakultät
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

Lehrstuhl für Praktische Theologie mit Schwerpunkt Religionspädagogik
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 2
37073 Göttingen
0551 / 39 – 26276 (Dekanat, Frau God)
0551 / 39 – 27119 (Büro)
bernd.schroeder@theologie.uni-goettingen.de

To all students,
who are going to complete their Master's degree
"Intercultural Theology" in summer 2020

Goettingen, July 3rd, 2020

Dear students, dear lecturers, dear all,

unfortunately, this year's final event for your Master course - like almost all courses and events of this summer semester - has to take place online due to Corona. We all would have wished it differently, and I regret it especially for you all, that there can be no last physical reunion and farewell.

Nevertheless, it is a pleasure for me as Dean to greet you on the occasion of the completion of your courses and to wish you good luck for the upcoming writing of your master thesis.

Our Faculty is very glad to see that your cohort of students of "Intercultural Theology" is going to finish their studies successfully - despite adverse circumstances, especially in the last quarter. We hope that you all have enjoyed to study at Hermannsburg as well as at Goettingen University and to stay – at least one or two days a week – at Goettingen.

For us the courses of "Intercultural Theology" turn out to be an important part of our range of courses – my colleagues therefore have tried to do their very best in offering exciting insights in our research and academic points of view.

You as students of Intercultural Theology play this important role due to several reasons: You represent by far the largest group of international students at our faculty; you come from contexts in which theology as an interpretation of life and as a model for lifestyles is in demand in a completely different way than in Germany; you are bringing with you exciting life and professional experiences, which you also bring up in seminars and lectures in an enjoyable way. I got a nice impression of this during the symposium on the occasion of 10 years of Intercultural Theology in December 2019.

In any case, we are thankful for your curiosity in looking into our German ways of doing academic theology and religious studies. Thank you all for your commitment and for giving us the chance to learn more about Christianity and other religions from all over the world!

Each time I say goodbye to a group of students is a good opportunity to thank my colleagues from the University of Applied Sciences for Intercultural Theology in Hermannsburg, with whom we have worked well for many years. In some respects they carry out a large part of the teaching and examination tasks and - much more than we do in Göttingen - lead a common life with you on the Hermannsburg campus. Thank you for your commitment!

Finally, I am pleased to conclude my welcoming address with a heartfelt thank you to Cornelia Schlarb and Fritz Heinrich, who have accompanied you for two years and will continue to do so until your theses will be submitted.

Once again, good luck with your final scientific study at the end of two years of experience abroad and all the best in case you return to your home country and continue on your professional path. We are keen on learning more about where your path will lead!

I wish you all God's blessing,
yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'B. S.', written in a cursive style.