



International Study Program “The Church as an Intercultural and International Community”

10 April* to 16 July, 2021 (Summer Term)

Kirchliche Hochschule Wuppertal-Bethel (Protestant University Wuppertal-Bethel)

Objective: To create an international and intercultural learning group that equips its participants with intercultural skills and experiences.

This program is a challenge: Nine students of theology, three each from Africa, Asia and Germany, live and learn together at the Protestant University Wuppertal-Bethel (Kirchliche Hochschule Wuppertal-Bethel), accompanied by the United Evangelical Mission (UEM). They will attend lectures and seminars, meet regularly to reflect what they have learned, and attend some programs outside of the university together. They live as a community in a student hostel directly on campus, accompanied by UEM staff. Excursions to church and inter-religious projects (if possible under Coronavirus regulations) in and around Wuppertal will round out the program.

Who can participate?

Theological students from member churches of the United Evangelical Mission (<https://www.ve mission.org/en/about-uem/who-we-are/uem-film-1.html>) enrolled in a Masters or Doctoral program (deutsche Studierende: Magister oder Pfarramtsstudiengang) in a recognized theological faculty who are interested in acquiring an international perspective and intercultural skills.

It will be ensured that the group is gender balanced. Proficiency in English is a prerequisite.

What will it cost?

Students from Africa and Asia will receive full scholarships from UEM covering room, board, insurance, study fees, transport and pocket money. UEM will also take care of their international travel. Their home churches are asked to cover national travel cost as well as the cost of visa and preparation.

Students from Germany will get a partial scholarship of 250 Euros per month.

How to apply?

You need to submit

- an application letter,
- a CV,
- an endorsement from your church,
- a recommendation from one of your professors,
- an essay of 1,000 words dealing with a topic of your particular interest under the theme of the program.

Please send them, preferably in one pdf document, electronically to gospel@ve mission.org, no later than 1 December 2020.

Participants will be chosen from among the applicants by a committee of representatives from UEM and Protestant University.

* Possible quarantine regulations may mean that students will have to arrive in Germany a few days before this date.

Weekly study program during the term:

A wide choice of classes in English language at the Protestant University:

Systematic theology:

- Lecture: Introduction into Christian Eschatology (2 hours, 2 credit points)
- Seminar: Jürgen Moltmann: The Trinity and the Kingdom (2 hours, 3 credit points)
- Seminar: The ethics of Stanley Hauerwas (2 hours, 4 credit points)

Ecumenical theology:

- Seminar: The church as an intercultural and international community in a time of pandemic (2 hours, 4 credit points)
- Seminar: Gospel, culture and context – missiological perspectives (2 hours, 3/4 credit points)

Old Testament:

- Seminar: Vulnerability and resilience (2 hours, 4 credit points)

Church History:

- Seminar: How to build a 'reformed' church: The Synod of Emden 1571 (with excursion) (2 hours, 2 credit points)

Practical theology:

- Seminar: Doing practical theology with 'things' – an invitation and introduction to the new paradigm of 'materializing religion' (2 hours, 2 credit points)

Possibly also two seminars on Jewish theology.

Weekly reflection group meetings under supervision from UEM open the possibility to discuss questions of interest.

Excursions:

Excursions will be arranged according to the interests of the participants if they are possible under Coronavirus regulations.

Time Table:

10 April	Arrival in Germany (or up to two weeks earlier depending on quarantine regulations)
11-12 April	Orientation
13 April	Summer term begins Studying at Protestant University Every Wednesday afternoon: Group reflection meeting
10 July	Evaluation
15 July	End of semester
16 July	Departure

Questions?

Please contact Rev. Dr. Claudia Währisch-Oblau, UEM (gospel@vemission.org),
Rev. Dr. Andar Parlindungan, UEM (parlindungan-a@vemission.org),
Rev. Dr. Alexander Ernst, Protestant University (alexander.ernst@kiho-wuppertal-bethel.de)