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Department of Criminology and Sociology, University of Hull
Cottingham Road, Hull, HU6 7RX United Kingdom

Current Position

Senior Lecturer in Religion, Program Director Sociology
University of Hull, Department of Criminology and Sociology
Sept 2011 onw

I am a **Senior Lecturer in Religion** at the Department of Criminology and Sociology and the **Programme Director for Sociology**. I joined the University in 2011 and was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2016. From 2014-2018, I acted as Director of the “Centre for Spirituality Studies” at the School of Social Sciences.

I gained **Senior Fellowship Status of the Higher Education Academy** (SFHEA) in 2018.

From **March 2018 to January 2019 I acted as interim Co-Subject Group Head** for the Social Sciences Subject Group within the School of Education and Social Sciences.

Education

Dr. theol., Fall 2002-2007
University of Graz, Graz, Austria

Institute of Fundamental Theology. Supervisor: O. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Gerhard Larcher, second advisor: ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Kurt Remele.

Thesis: *Das vernetzte Subjekt. Eine theologische Annäherung an das Verständnis von Subjektivität unter den Bedingungen der Informations- und Kommunikationstechnologien.* [The Networked Subject. A Theological Approach to the Understanding of Subjectivity in the Context of Information and Communication Technology]. Graduation “Mit Auszeichnung bestanden”.

MBA, Master of Business Administration
University of Leicester, awarded 2015

M.Theol. & MA in Religious Education, Fall 1995 - July 2002
University of Graz, Graz, Austria

Institute of Ethics and Catholic Social Teaching. Supervisor: Ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Kurt Remele

Title: *Zivilreligion in den USA. Entstehung – wissenschaftliche Debatte – Aktualität in den Reden von George Walker Bush nach dem 11. September 2001* [Civil Religion in the USA. Emergence – Scientific Debate – Significance in George

Walker Bush's Addresses after 9/11]. Graduation “Mit Auszeichnung bestanden.”

Seattle University, Seattle, WA, USA. Fall 1998-Spring 1999

International Exchange Student – Joint Study Program

Books

Ornella, Alexander Darius (ed.), *Making Humans. Religious, Technological, and Aesthetic Perspectives*, London: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2015.

Ornella, Alexander Darius / Knauss, Stefanie / Höpflinger, Anna-Katharina (eds.), *Commun(ica)ting Bodies. The Body as Medium in Religious Communication*, London: Bloomsbury, reprint, 2015.

Ornella, Alexander Darius / Knauss, Stefanie / Höpflinger, Anna-Katharina (eds.), *Commun(ica)ting Bodies. The Body as Medium in Religious Communication*, Zurich: Pano/Nomos, 2014.

Ornella, Alexander Darius / Knauss, Stefanie (eds.), *Fascinatingly Disturbing: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Michael Haneke's Cinema*, Eugene: Pickwick, 2010.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, *Das vernetzte Subjekt. Eine theologische Annäherung an das Verständnis von Subjektivität unter den Bedingungen der Informations- und Kommunikationstechnologien. [The Networked Subject. A Theological Approach to the Understanding of Subjectivity in the Context of Information and Communication Technology]*, Vienna: LIT, 2010.

Wessely, Christian / Ornella, Alexander Darius (eds.), *Religion und Mediengesellschaft [Religion and Media Society]*, Innsbruck: Tyrolia, 2010.

Knauß, Stefanie / Ornella, Alexander Darius (eds.), *Reconfigurations: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Religion in a Post-Secular Society*, Vienna: LIT, 2007.

Articles

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “‘Why nature won’t save us from climate change but technology will’: Creating a New Heaven and a New Earth Through Carbon Capture Technologies”, in: Maasen, Sabine & Atwood, David, *Immanente Religion – Transzendente Technologie. Religionisierte Verständigung über gesellschaftliche Grenz(überschreitungen)*, Verlag Budrich, forthcoming 2020.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Suffering in, for, and with Christ: Faithful CrossFit Bodies”, in: Zwilling, Anne-Laure / Obadia, Lionel (eds.), *Corps, religion et diversité*, Academia / l’Harmattan, forthcoming 2020.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “‘Jesus Saves’ and ‘Clothed in Christ’: Athletic Religious Apparel in the Christian CrossFit Community”, in: *Sport in Society*, 2017, DOI: [10.1080/17430437.2017.1360580](https://doi.org/10.1080/17430437.2017.1360580).

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Losers, Food, and Sex: Clerical Masculinities in the BBC Sitcom REV.”, in: *Journal for Religion, Film, and Media* 2 (2), 2016, 99-102.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Of Imprints and Metaphors. The Construction of Stubborn Bodies in the Science Fiction Film Chrysalis”, in: Ornella, Alexander Darius (ed.), *Making Humans: Religious, Technological, and Aesthetic Perspectives*, London: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2015, 209-230.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Introduction”, in: Ornella, Alexander Darius (ed.), *Making Humans: Religious, Technological, and Aesthetic Perspectives*, London: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2015, vii-xiv.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Uncanny Intimacies. Humans and Machines in Film”, in: Hauskeller, Michael et al. (eds.), *Palgrave Handbook of Posthumanism in Film and Television*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015, 330-338.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “...ihnen aber wurden die Augen geöffnet.’ Transhumanismus im Film und Fernsehen”, in: *Aufklärung und Vernunft* 54 (3), 2015, 151-167.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Towards a ‘Circuit of Technological Imaginaries’. A Theoretical Approach”, in: Pezzoli-Olgiati, Daria (ed.), *Religion in Cultural Imaginary. Explorations in Visual und Material Practices*, Baden-Baden: Nomos, 2015, 303-332.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “...watching Donny beat Nazis to death is the closest we ever get to going to the movies.’ Mediale Gewalt und ihre Ambivalenz im Kontext gesellschaftlicher Strukturen der Krise“ [The Ambivalence of Media Violence in Social Structures of Crises], in: Regensburger, Dietmar; Wessely, Christian (eds.), *Von Ödipus zu Eichmann. Kulturanthropologische Voraussetzungen von Gewalt*, Marburg: Schüren, 2015, 285-304.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Opening Up and Closing Down: Bodies – Technologies – Boundaries”, in: Ornella, Alexander Darius / Knauss, Stefanie / Höpflinger, Anna-Katharina (eds.), *Commun(ica)ting Bodies. The Body as Medium in Religious Communication*, Zurich: Pano/Nomos, 2014, 153-186.

Höpflinger, Anna-Katharina / Knauss, Stefanie / Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Introduction: Body, Communication and Religion”, in: Ornella, Alexander Darius / Knauss, Stefanie / Höpflinger, Anna-Katharina (eds.), *Commun(ica)ting Bodies. The Body as Medium in Religious Communication*, Zurich: Pano/Nomos, 2014, 11-24.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Bodies in and out of Place. Tarantino’s Django Unchained and Body Spaces”, in: Speck, Oliver C. (ed.): *Quentin*

Tarantino's Django Unchained: The Continuation of Metacinema, London: Bloomsbury, 2014, 93-122.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "Of Watchdogs and Safe Havens. Control Mechanisms and/in Online Sacred Spaces", in: Ahlbäck, Tore & Dahla, Björn (eds.): *Digital Religion*, Åbo: Donner Institute, 2013, 150-180.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "Theology in Mediatic Societies", in: Runehov, Anne L. & Oviedo, Lluís (eds.): *Encyclopedia of Sciences and Religion*, Dordrecht: Springer, 2013, 1259-1268.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "Kommunikations(t)räume. Smart Garments als Kommunikationsprozess [Communicative Dreams/Spaces. Smart Garments as Communication Processes]", in: Glavac, Monika & Höpflinger, Anna-Katharina & Pezzoli-Olgiati, Daria (eds.): *Second Skin. Körper, Kleidung, Religion*, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck&Ruprecht, 2013, 203-218.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "It's All About Sex. The Peculiar Case of Technology and Gender", in: *Verifische* 42 (1-3), 2013, 182-213.

Knauss, Stefanie & Ornella, Alexander Darius, "Weiter denken", in: Ammicht-Quinn, Regina (ed.), *"Guter Sex". Moral, Moderne und die katholische Kirche*, Paderborn: Ferdinand Schöningh, 2013, 219-224.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "Disruptive Violence as Means to Create a Space for Reflection. Thoughts on Tarantino's Attempts at Audience Irritation", in: Dassenowsky, Robert (ed.), *Inglourious Basterds. A Manipulation of Metacinema*, New York: Continuum, 2012, 215-245.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "L'estetica della soggettività [The Aesthetics of Subjectivity]", in: Knauss, Stefanie; Zordan, Davide (eds.), *La promessa immaginata. Proposte per una teologia estetica fondamentale*, Bologna: EDB, 2011, 73-89.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "Cat and Mouse. Haneke's Joy in the Spectator's Distress", in: Ornella, Alexander; Knauss, Stefanie (eds.), *Fascinatingly Disturbing. Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Michael Haneke's Cinema*, Eugene: Pickwick, 2011, 145-166.

Ornella, Alexander Darius; Knauss, Stefanie, "Introduction", in: Ornella, Alexander; Knauss, Stefanie (eds.), *Fascinatingly Disturbing. Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Michael Haneke's Cinema*, Eugene: Pickwick, 2011, 1-10.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "Creation Technologies. The Technological Condition of Humanity", in: *ET Studies* 1(1), 2010, 53-68.

Knauss, Stefanie, Ornella, Alexander Darius, "Identität 2.0 – zwischen Tradition und neuen Medien [Identity 2.0 – Between Tradition and New Media]", in: Wessely, Christian, Ornella, Alexander Darius (eds.), *Religion*

und Mediengesellschaft. Beiträge zu einem Paradoxon [Religion and Media Society. Contributions to a Paradoxon], Innsbruck: Tyrolia, 2010, 81-92.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Posthuman Pleasures. Transcending the Human-Machine Boundary”, in: *Journal of Theology and Sexuality* 15 (3), 2009, 311-328.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “The Promethean Myth. An Argument for Methodological Atheism”, in: *Masaryk University Journal of Law and Technology* 3 (1) 2009, 125-151.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “‘The End is Nigh’. A Reflection on the Relationship between Media and Religion”, in: Hoelzl, Michael, Ward, Graham, *The New Visibility of Religion. Studies in Religion and Political Culture*, London: Continuum, 2008, 129-147.

Larcher, Gerhard, Ornella, Alexander Darius, “The Re-enchantment of the World and the End of Modern Art. Interview with Peter Weibel”, in: Hoelzl, Michael, Ward, Graham, *The New Visibility of Religion. Studies in Religion and Political Culture*, London: Continuum, 2008, 117-128.

Knauß, Stefanie, Ornella, Alexander Darius, “.\\configure: Introduction”, in: Knauß, Stefanie, Ornella, Alexander D. (eds.), *Reconfigurations: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Religion in a Post-Secular Society*, Vienna: LIT, 2007, 7-15.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Networked – Subjectivity Revisited”, in: Knauß, Stefanie, Ornella, Alexander D. (eds.), *Reconfigurations: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Religion in a Post-Secular Society*, Vienna: LIT, 2007, 217-231.

Knauß, Stefanie, Ornella, Alexander Darius, “There are no angels in America”? Eine fundamentaltheologische Annäherung an religiöse Phänomene in der Medienkultur [A Foundational Theological Approach to Religious Phenomena in Media Culture]”, in: Wessely, Christian (ed.), *Kunst des Glaubens – Glaube der Kunst: Der Blick auf das “unverfügbare Andere”*, FS G. Larcher, Regensburg: Pustet, 2006.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Das Spiel mit der Wirklichkeit. Gedanken zur medialen Konstruktion von Wirklichkeit anhand des Films *Funny Games* [Playing with Reality. Some thoughts on Michael Haneke’s Film *Funny Games*]”, in: Wessely, Christian, Larcher, Gerhard, Grabner, Franz, *Michael Haneke und seine Filme. Eine Pathologie der Konsumgesellschaft*, Marburg: Schüren, 2005, 105-114.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Mediale Inszenierung von Wirklichkeit. Michael Moores Sein und Schein [Production of Reality in Media. Appearance and Reality in Michael Moore’s Documentaries]”, in: Lesch, Walter, Martig, Charles, Valentin, Joachim, *Filmkunst und Gesellschaftskritik. Sozialethische Erkundungen*, Marburg: Schüren, 2005, 135-154.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, “Medien und ihre Wirklichkeit [Media and Their Reality]”, in: Lesch, Walter, Martig, Charles, Valentin, Joachim, *Filmkunst und Gesellschaftskritik. Sozialethische Erkundungen*, Marburg: Schüren, 2005, 215-218.

Selected Presentations *A Shattered Whole? Imagining Europe in Pieces*. Presentation at the [Imagining Europe: Normativity, Identity and Diversity in Visual and Material Culture workshop](#) of the International Exchange Media and Religion, University of Munich, 28-30 August 2019.

Jesus Saves, Bro: God-as-Brand in Clothing Practices in the Christian CrossFit Community. Reviewed conference presentation at the Inaugural Global Congress on Sports and Christianity, York St. John University, 24-28 August 2016.

Suffering In, For, and With Christ: Faithful CrossFit Bodies. Invited conference presentation at *Le corps et les discours religieux contemporains*, University of Strasbourg, 30 Sept - 1 Oct 2015.

Fantastic Bodies. Tech-Bodies as mysterium tremendum et fascinans. International Reviewed presentation at the conference of the International Society for Media, Religion and Culture, University of Kent, Canterbury/UK, 4-6 August 2014.

Cross-media Disobedience. Nonviolent Activism in and across Media Spaces. Reviewed presentation at the conference of the International Society for Media, Religion and Culture, University of Kent, Canterbury/UK, 4-6 August 2014.

'I Saw a New Heaven and a New Earth': On the Entanglement of Transhumanism, Religion, and SciFi Culture. Invited seminar presentation at *Playing God: Exploring the Intersections between Science, Religion and Entertainment Media*, University of Manchester, CHSTM / Wellcome Trust, 31 May – 1 June 2014.

Bodies on Horses. Politics of Bodies and Spaces in Django Unchained. Presentation at the conference “The African American Experience Since 1992”, WISE Institute, University of Hull, 20 Sept 2013.

Identity and Memory as Art Forms. A Reflection on Memento and Ricœur's Narrative Identity. Reviewed presentation at the conference of the International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture, Faculty of Theology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, 19-21 October 2012.

Of Imprints and Metaphors. SciFi and the Construction of Stubborn Bodies. Presentation at the research seminar “Anthropotechnologies” at the University of Hull, 3-4 September 2012.

Male Believers: An (Interreligious) Exploration of Gender Roles on Screen. Refereed panel on masculinity and religion. Reviewed panel discussion (together with Stefanie Knauß, Sofia Sjö, and Davide Zordan) at the Media, Religion, and Culture Conference of the International Society for Media, Religion, and Culture. Anadolu Üniversitesi, Eskişehir, Turkey, 8-12 July 2012.

Of Watchdogs and Safe Havens. Control Mechanism and/ in Online Sacred Spaces. Invited keynote presentation at the 23rd Donner Institute symposium “Digital Religion”, Donner Institute for Research in Religion and Cultural History, Åbo Akademi University, Turku, Finland, 13-15 June 2012.

Queering Technology. Reflections about the Interrelationship between Body, Gender, and Technology. Presentation at the conference-seminar “The Social Body. Negotiations of Religion and Gender in the Public Realm”, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Centro per le Scienze Religiose, Trento, Italy, 1-2 Dec 2011.

Invited conference response at the conference “Let’s Think about Sex - Obsessionen der Moderne, katholische Sexualmoral, ‚guter‘ Sex” [Obsessions of Modernity, Catholic Sexual Moral Teaching, ‘Good’ Sex], Frankfurt/Main, Germany, FAZ House, organized by Prof. Dr. Regina Ammicht Quinn (Tübingen) and Prof. Dr. Saskia Wenzel (Köln), 5-6 Oct 2011.

Utopia as Dystopia? Reflections on Visions of the Natural Human Body. Refereed presentation at the annual conference of the AAR – American Academy of Religion, Atlanta/USA, 30 Oct-1 Nov 2010.

Your Most Intimate Friend: Smart Textiles as Intimate (Body) Space. Presentation at the international conference “Second Skin: Clothing, the Body, and the Representation of Religion”, Bigorio, Switzerland, 6-8 Oct 2010.

(No) More Bodies. Bodies, Bodies, and (No) More Bodies. Research presentation for the ARIL/CrossCurrents Summer Colloquium, NYC (USA), 28 July 2010.

Visions of Artificiality. An Attempt on Body Boundaries. Research presentation for the ARIL/CrossCurrents Summer Colloquium, NYC (USA), 8 July 2010.

A Technological Narrative of Religion, A Religious Narrative of Technology. Refereed presentation at the annual conference of the AAR – American Academy of Religion, Montreal/Canada, 7-10 Nov 2009.

Creation Technologies. Preliminary Reflections on the Technological Condition of Humanity. Refereed presentation at the conference of the European Society of Catholic Theology, Limerick/Ireland, 20-23 Aug 2009.

Posthuman Utopias. Presentation at the annual conference of the International Research Group Film and Theology, Schwerte/Germany, 25-28 June 2009.

Posthuman Pleasures. Transcending the Human-Machine Boundary. Refereed presentation at the conference Gender – Sexuality – Religion, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento/Italy, 3-6 Dec. 2008.

The Laboratory of the Transcendent. Alienation and Religious Transformation in Film. Refereed presentation at the 14th Conference of the International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture 2008, Aarhus/Denmark, 17-19 Oct. 2008.

Silver Surfer and Super Jesus. Media and the Staging of the Religious. Invited workshop at the Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford, Ireland, 19 Oct. 2007.

What's Playing on Your iGod? Invited public lecture at the Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford, Ireland, 19 Oct. 2007.

Networked. Subjectivity Revisited. Refereed conference paper at 'The Fifth International Conference on Media, Religion, and Culture: Mediating Religion in the context of Multicultural Tension', Sigtuna, Sweden, July 6-9, 2006, <http://www.sigtunastiftelsen.se/cmrc/>.

Creatio ex nihilo. The Quest of Media for Reality. Refereed conference paper at 'CongressCATH2005. Ethics and Politics of Virtuality and Indexicality', Bradford, UK, June 30-July 3, 2005, <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/cath/congress/2005/index.html>.

The Rise of the Religious in Media Society. Refereed conference paper at 'Media and Belief in an Interdependent World', American University of Paris, Paris, France, 4-5 March 2005, <http://www.aup.fr/main/academics/departments/intcom/conference.s.htm>.

Invited response to Patrick Riordan's (Heythrop Institute for Religion, Ethics and Public Life, UK) paper 'Religion and Politics. Conceptual Tools for Understanding Their Relationship', at the network 'The New Visibility of Religion in European Democratic Culture. Denial of Religious Authority', Berlin, Germany, March 2005.

Science2Public

Hull and East Riding Interfaith Forum, invited talk about reform movements in Islam. Hull Guildhall, 27 June 2017.

BBC Radio Humber, interview about the impact of Donald Trump's presidency on religious freedom in the USA. 22 Jan 2017.

How to live forever podcast on 28 August 2015. Leila Johnston from HackCircus interviewed Eric Olsen, Paul Graham Raven, and myself.

The podcast is part of her art project How to live forever funded by Brighton Digital Festival, Arts Council England, and the British Science Foundation. The podcast is available at: <http://hackcircus.libsyn.com/how-to-live-forever-bonus-podcast>.

BBC Radio Humber, interview on religion and politics in the context of the 2012 elections, 4 Nov 2012.

Ornella, Alexander Darius, "In Time – Out of Time – Oder doch nicht? [In Time – Out of Time – Or Not?]", review of the film In Time (Andrew Niccol, USA 2011), in: Bulletin of the Zentrum für Religion, Wirtschaft und Politik [Center for Religion, Economy, and Politics] of the University of Zurich, Nr. 4 Spring 2012, 4.

Other Qualifications Award of Senior Fellowship Status (SFHEA) of the Higher Education Academy, 2018.

Award of the Teaching Fellowship (FHEA) of the Higher Education Academy, April 2015.

Past Positions **Research fellow and project coordinator of the intl. research project Communicating Bodies. Summer 2009 – August 2011**

Institute of Fundamental Theology University of Graz, Austria
Besides my own research, I am responsible for the administration of the project, i.e. the coordination and communication between the three projects sites (Austria, Switzerland, Italy), the annual reports to the Austrian Science Funds (FWF) funding the project, as well as all financial matters. I also was one of the main two authors of the grant applications. Additionally, I acted as Lecturer on the religious studies program (graduate level).

Post-Doc Research Fellow, Lecturer. Dec 2007 - Fall 2009
Institute of Fundamental Theology University of Graz, Austria

Post-doc research scholarship awarded by the Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Graz; Lecturer on the theology and religious studies program at the University of Graz.

Research Fellow for the research project *TheoMedia. Theology in Media Society* funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF). February 2004 – 2007

Institute of Fundamental Theology University of Graz, Austria.
Besides my own research, I was responsible for the administration of and coordination with our research partners at Graz University of Technology. I was the main author of the grant application and also assisted in supervising the research of the graduate students involved in TheoMedia.

Research Organization Apocalypse and Authenticity 11-13 July 2017 University of Hull, Hull, UK.

I organized the bi-annual conference of the Theology, Religion, and Popular Culture Network that took place at the University of Hull, 11-13 July 2017. The theme of the conference was Apocalypse and Authenticity.

Religion at Work – Research Day, 26 January 2016 University of Hull, Hull, UK.

I was a co-organizer of the research day Religion at Work on 26 January 2016 at the University of Hull. The research day is a joint event of the Centre of Spirituality Studies, the Hull University Business School, and the International Association of Management Spirituality and Religion. The event focuses on the spirituality practices at the workplace and in leadership discourses and aims to provide an opportunity for young and emerging scholars to discuss their research.

Spirituality and Popular Culture / Arts – Research Day 18 June 2015 University of Hull, Hull, UK.

As Director of the Centre for Spirituality Studies, I have organized this event on religion, spirituality, popular culture, and the arts. The aim was to explore how popular culture and art can be a source for spiritual experiences and transcendent encounters. The papers focused on a range of topics such as geek subculture or the production of artworks by hospital patients.

The Philosophy and Theology of Immortality – International Conference, 20-23 May 2015, University of Hull, Hull, UK.

I co-organized the Immortality Conference with colleagues from Philosophy after receiving a research grant from the Immortality Project at the University of California, Riverside, and the John Templeton Foundation. Our conference focused on philosophical and theological issues regarding various conceptions of immortality, both more traditional ones and contemporary transhumanist notions of immortality, human enhancement, and radical life extension. The conference was preceded by a Pre-Conference Workshop (20 May 2015) with a particular focus on Transhumanism. For both events, we were able to invite key scholars in the field, such as Susan Schneider, Stefan Sorgner, John Harris, and Richard Swinburne.

“I sing the body electric” – International Research Seminar, 3 June 2014 University of Hull, Hull, UK.

I am organizing the research seminar “‘I sing the body electric’. Body as Voice from a Musicological, Technological, and Religious Studies Perspective” at the University of Hull, UK. The seminar is part of a seminar series in the context of the research project Commun(icat)ing Bodies funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) and will be held in cooperation with the University of Hull’s School of Social Sciences research seminars. The seminar program can be found at <http://communicating-bodies.net/body-electric/>.

Anthropotechnologies – International Research Seminar 3-4 Sept 2012, University of Hull, Hull, UK.

I organized the research seminar “Anthropotechnologies” at the University of Hull, UK. The seminar was part of a seminar series in the context of the research project Commun(icat)ing Bodies funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF). The seminar program can be found at <http://communicating-bodies.net>.

**Commun(icat)ing Bodies - The Body Conference, Feb 2012
University of Graz, Graz, Austria.**

I was the leader of a three-person team who organized the international conference Commun(icat)ing Bodies at the University of Graz, Austria, 15-17 February 2012. The conference was part of the research seminar Commun(icat)ing Bodies funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF). I was responsible for the distribution of responsibilities and I was the contact person for university administration. The conference was mostly funded by external funds and – together with a colleague – I submitted external funding applications. The conference program can be found at <http://communicating-bodies.net>.

**Project coordinator, Commun(icat)ing Bodies, 2009 onw.
Institute of Fundamental Theology Summer 2009 onw. University
of Graz, Graz, Austria.**

As project coordinator of the intl. reserach project Com- mun(icat)ing Bodies I was responsible for the coordination of team members of the project at the University of Graz, the University of Zurich, and the Fondazione Bruno Kessler (Trento). The research project was funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF [P21352].

Editorial Board

Editorial Board Member of the Journal for Religion, Film and Media (JRFM), https://jrfm.eu/index.php/ojs_jrfm/about/editorialTeam.

Teaching

I have 12 years of teaching experience. I taught courses for the theology as well as the religious studies program (undergraduate and graduate level) at the University of Graz. Currently, I am a Senior Lecturer in Religion at the University of Hull and teach on the religious studies, sociology, and criminology programs. In my classes I deal with how people today try to make sense of their lives with the help of arts and media. In my assignments, I try to appreciate student diversity and therefore use a range of assessment strategies, recently with an increasing focus on public scholarship, using digital media and technologies for assessment, and in class peer reviews. Classes I have taught include:

- Introduction to World Religions.
- Avatars, Cyborgs, and Ordinary Human(s)/Bodies.
- Religious Fictions.
- Religion and Media: Inside the Matrix. Subject and Subjectivity in the Media Age.
- In God We Trust. Religion and Politics in the US.
- Sacred Spaces – Sacred Media.

- Armageddon. Representations of the End/Salvation of World(s) in Popular Film.
- Holy Superheros. Traces of the Religious in Comics, Graphic Novels, and Animated Films.
- In Religion We Trust!?! Media, Arts, and Religion in a Post-Secular Society.
- Viewing the Divine. The Presence of the Religious in Media.
- We R Who We R. Media, Religion, and Identity Construction.
- Negotiating Research in Religion.
- Understanding Islam(ophobia).
- Theorizing Society.
- Visualizing the Other.
- Visual and Material Cultures.
- Apocalypse and Utopia.
- Collecting Social Data.
- Ethnographic Travels.
- Religious Activism.

Awards & Scholarships *April 2015:* Shortlisted for the Hull University Student Union Student-Led Teaching Award for innovative teaching.
July 2010: Coolidge Scholar, ARIL/CrossCurrents Summer Colloquium NYC.
Aug. 2009: Honor of Laureate for my contribution to the essay contest of the European Society of Catholic Theology.
Dec. 2007 : Post-Doc Research Scholarship awarded by the Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Graz, Austria.
Dec. 2007: Graduation receiving the Dr. theol. from the University of Graz, Austria: “Mit Auszeichnung bestanden” (equivalent to summa cum laude).
Dec. 2006: Research grant for Doctoral Students awarded by the Catholic School of Theology, University of Graz, Austria.
Dec. 2004: Research grant for Doctoral Students awarded by the Catholic School of Theology, University of Graz, Austria.
Aug. 2002: Stipend from the Austrian Conference of Catholic Bishops to participate at the European Forum Alpbach.
Jan. - Feb. 2002: Research Scholarship from the University of Graz, Austria, for the research for my master’s thesis on civil religion in the United States (Seattle University and University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA).

Memberships

American Academy of Religion AAR (and from 2010–2015 I was also a Member of the Steering Committee of the Body and Religion Group of the AAR)
 British Association for the Study of Religion
 European Society for Catholic Theology International
 International Exchange on Media and Religion (<https://media-religion.net/>)
 International Study Group ‘Film and Theology’