

The Institute for the Science of Religion at the University of Bern invites applicants for 2 PhD positions (100%, 3 years)

The Institute for the Science of Religion at the University of Bern is offering 2 full-time PhD positions starting 1 July 2018 to work on the research project “The Legacy of the 1960s and 1970s: Religious and Scientific Entanglements.”

About the Project

The aforementioned research project investigates the entangled history of religious and social-scientific discourses and institutions from the late 1960s through today. To do so, it focuses on two fundamental developments within and across the Swiss scientific and religious fields. The first subproject, entitled *The dynamics of religion and the social sciences*, is centered on the institutionalization of the sociology of religion in Switzerland, drawing attention to the intellectual transfer processes between religious and scholarly actors. The second subproject, entitled *Emerging religiosity, emerging assessments*, analyzes the creation, institutionalization, and development on Swiss soil of “advice centers” for new religious movements (NRMs) and discusses the related interactions among government institutions, the Catholic and Reformed Churches, and scholars of different disciplines.

Your Task

- + Carry out one of the two subprojects in cooperation with the research team
- + Write a PhD thesis in the study of religion
- + Participate in the activities of the Institute for the Science of Religion and the Center for Global Studies at the University of Bern
- + Actively engage in the organization of scientific conferences and events connected to the research project

Your Qualifications

- + MA (or equivalent degree) in the study of religion, sociology, or history

- + Interest in the history of science and religion in the 20th century, as well as in theoretical questions related to the scientific study of religion
- + Proficiency in German and French
- + Experience with archival research and/or qualitative empirical research (in particular semi-directive interviews) would be an advantage

What We Offer

- + 100% PhD position for 3 years (salary according to Swiss National Science Foundation criteria)
- + Stimulating research environment and interesting discussions with the Institute's team

Applications

Please send your complete application, including a motivation letter, your CV, and a copy of your academic certificates no later than 15 May 2018 in electronic form to andrea.rota@relwi.unibe.ch. For more information, please contact Prof. Dr. Andrea Rota.