



MONDAY LECTURES | SOSE 2025

IN RELIGIOUS, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

RESEARCH BUILDING "WELTBEZIEHUNGEN" | C19.00.02/03 | 16:15 - 17:45

28.04.2025 | CORINNE BONNET

WHERE DO THE GODS LIVE? (2): SMALL POLYTHEISM VERSUS UNIVERSAL POLYTHEISM

Should we contrast the local, narrow dimension of communication with the gods with the broad, global, universal dimension that can characterise them? Based on specific cases that point towards small polytheism, we will examine the possible links with universal polytheism. This raises the question of the very notion of universal polytheism. Does it mean the spread of gods throughout the oikoumene? Or rather deities whose functions take on a cosmic dimension? We will consider here the case of gods described as "celestial", such as Yahweh, Baal Shamim and Ashtart or Zeus Hypsistos, Keraunos and Aphrodite Ourania. How do they carry out their celestial functions, and do they have a truly cosmic impact? We will also examine the implications of being described as Baal or Kyrios "Lord" of a specific place or space. This will be an opportunity to reassess the "Here there anywhere" typology proposed by Jonathan Smith to unfold the relationship between the gods and space.

**ALL GUESTS WELCOME.
NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY.**