

MONDAY LECTURES | WISE 2025/26 IN RELIGIOUS, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

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

LECTURE SERIES BY MATEUSZ FAFINSKI "MONASTIC REVOLUTION"

Over the course of the four lectures we will discover a new narrative of one of the most fascinating revolutions of the first millennium. A social movement that has transformed the practice of a whole religion and ultimately has overturned the expectations and the realities of the whole western Afroeurasia emerged in the third century: monasticism. We will start with the narratives of origins of this movement and the possible explanations and impact of its emergence on the late antique society as well as hoping to convince you

all that it was not only a religious phenomenon but also a social movement. Then we will look how the coalescing of monasticism has impacted Christian church politics and upturned the whole understanding of piety, religious practice and, ultimately, what it meant to experience salvation. Next, we will sketch how monasticism impacted worlds beyond religion and how it has shaped both politics and the culture of late antique bureaucracy, paving a way to a transformation of governance. In the last lecture we will go beyond late antiquity and show how these developments--the monastic revolution--shaped the post-imperial worlds after the sixth century and maybe how are they shaping our world today still.



**01.12.2025 | 15.12.2025
| 05.01.2026**

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