Although often challenged by socio-economic change and politics of modernization and secularization, religion has remained until the present an important social factor within Latin American societies, and a driving force for the formation of social identities and movements. From the European conquest to the present, ongoing transformation and diversification have affected religion and religious institutions. The workshop discusses the significance and alterations of religious belief systems within contemporary Latin American societies, combining different disciplines and methodological approaches. A special focus lies on the spread of catholic liberation theology and evangelical churches during the 20th century within a historical perspective.
Friday, March 17th

14:30-15:00 Opening Remarks
Prof. Dr. Christian Büschges (University of Bern), Prof. Dr. Yvette Sánchez (University of St. Gallen)

15:00-16:15 “Las metamorfosis del mesianismo en América Latina: de los misioneros del siglo XVI a la Teología de la Liberación”
Prof. Dr. Dr. Mariano Delgado (University of Fribourg)
Presented by Prof. Dr. Adriana López-Labourdette (University of Bern)

Coffee Break

16:45-17:45 “[...] by their fruits ye shall know them”: Religious discourses and practices and, their relation to development indicators in countries with Christian heritage (Study cases: Colombia, Cuba, Uruguay, Switzerland)
MA Jason García (University of St. Gallen)
Presented by Dr. Rocío Robinson (University of St. Gallen)

MA Noah Oehri (University of Bern)
Presented by Dr. Stella Krepp (University of Bern)

Dinner

Saturday, March 18th

09:00-10:00 “La revolución del poncho” en el Ecuador: ¿Utopía de un obispo renovador o inicio del movimiento indígena?”
MA Andrea Müller (University of Bern)
Presented by Dr. Stella Krepp (University of Bern)

10:00-11:15 Religion and Social Class in Latin America: The Example of Pentecostalism
Prof. Dr. Jens Köhren (University of Basel)
Presented by Prof. Dr. Corinne Pernet (University of Geneva)

Coffee Break

11:45-13:00 “De la Recepción de la Doctrina Social Católica en América Latina a la Recepción de la Teología de la Liberación en la Enseñanza Social de la Iglesia”
Prof. Dr. Gerhard Kruip (University Johannes Gutenberg of Mainz)
Presented by Prof. Dr. Christian Büschges (University of Bern)

13:00-14:15 Colonial pastoralism in Latin America: preliminary findings from Costa Rica
Dr. Edgar Zavala Pelayo (University of Stockholm)
Presented by Prof. Dr. Yvette Sánchez (University of St. Gallen)

14:15 Announcements and closing remarks
Dr. Vanessa Boanada (University of St. Gallen)

Lunch and networking