REINHOLD BERNHARDT, Dr. theol.

Professor Emeritus of Systematic Theology / Dogmatics
University of Basel (Switzerland)

Reinhold.Bernhardt@unibas.ch
https://theologie.unibas.ch/de/personen/reinhold-bernhardt/
Germany / Switzerland
Date of Birth: January 25, 1957

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2001–2024
Professor of Systematic Theology / Dogmatics
University of Basel, Faculty of Theology

2000–2001
Professor of Systematic Theology
University of Osnabrück

1998–2000
Pastor (Parish Ministry), Erbach/Odenwald, Germany
Teaching appointments at the University of Osnabrück

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

2021–2024
Dean of Studies, Faculty of Theology, University of Basel

2018–2020
Dean, Faculty of Theology, University of Basel

2006–2008
Dean, Faculty of Theology, University of Basel

EDUCATION

Habilitation in Theology, 1998
University of Heidelberg
Habilitation thesis:
What Does “Divine Action” Mean? A Reconstruction of the Doctrine of Providence (in German)

Doctorate in Theology (Dr. theol.), 1989
University of Heidelberg
Dissertation:

The Claim of Absoluteness of Christianity: From the Enlightenment to Pluralist Theology of Religions (in German)

First Theological Examination, 1984
(comparable to M.A./M.Th.)

Studies in Protestant Theology, 1977–1984
Universities of Mainz, Zurich, and Heidelberg

Studies in Social Sciences, 1976–1977
University of Applied Sciences, Wiesbaden

VISITING AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

1997
Visiting Scholar, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (USA)
Teaching: The Providence of God

1996–1998
Habilitation Fellowship, German Research Foundation (DFG)

EARLIER ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Tutor, Theologisches Konvikt, Frankfurt
Research Assistant, Ecumenical Institute, University of Heidelberg
Warden (Studienleiter), Ecumenical Institute and Dormitory, University of Heidelberg

HONORS & MEMBERSHIPS

Since 2023
Member, European Academy of Sciences and Arts
(Class VII: World Religions)

Since 2023
Member, World Council of Churches – Commission on Ecumenical Education and Formation

PUBLICATIONS

Books (Monographs)

The Claim of Absoluteness of Christianity (in German), Gütersloh 1990; Spanish trans. Bilbao 2000.

Christianity Without Absolutes, London: SCM Press, 1994.

Providence and Divine Action (in German), Gütersloh 1999; 2nd ed. Berlin 2008.

The End of Dialogue? (in German), Zurich 2006.

Truth in Openness (in German), Bern 2007 (French trans.).

Inter-Religio (in German), Zurich 2019.

Classics of Theology of Religions (in German), Zurich 2020.

Jesus Christ: Representative of God, Zurich, 2021.

Monotheism and Trinity (in German), Zurich 2023.

Theology of Religions as Critique of Religion (in German), Zurich 2024.

Christ the Representative: Toward a Representational Christology, Leiden: Brill, 2025.

The Experience of the Tragic (in German), Zürich 2026.

Evolution and Religion, (in German), Münster 2026.

God's acting in the world (in German), Freiburg i.Br. 2027 (in print).

Edited Volumes (Selection)

Editor or Co-Editor of more than 15 scholarly volumes, including works on:

theology of religions

interreligious dialogue

comparative theology

religion and science

public religion and conflict transformation

Articles

Author of 100+ peer-reviewed articles in international journals and edited volumes.
Full publication list available online.

EDITORIAL WORK

Editor, Theologische Zeitschrift (2004–2017)

Editor, Beiträge zu einer Theologie der Religionen
Co-Editor, Scientia & Religio
Co-Editor, Studies in Systematic Theology and Ethics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (INTERNATIONAL)

Universities in:
Germany, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Brazil, Iran, India

Including:
Heidelberg · Basel · Vanderbilt · Glasgow · Osnabrück · Bern · Qom · Bangalore

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theology of Religions

Interreligious Relations

Providence of God / Divine Action

Christology in Plural Contexts

The Tragic in Theology and Philosophy