



– Institute's Colloquium –

Dr. Astrid Windus
Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster

Anthropological perspectives on the religious history of the Andes: the case of Carabuco (Bolivia, 17th century)

Historical research about Andean cultures has traditionally been strongly influenced by anthropology. The paper discusses this relationship with regard to a special case, namely the religious history of the town of Carabuco, at the south-eastern shores of Lake Titicaca. In the 17th century, the town was a sanctuary with an important relic, the holy cross of Carabuco. According to catholic accounts, it once belonged to a Christian apostle who tried to convert the indigenous population in times before the Spanish conquest. This saint was also associated with the Andean deity Tunupa – an interpretation that could be found in historical documents, paintings and oral traditions. The lecture explores some of these sources. It argues that the local religious knowledge about the saint and its cross was shaped by transcultural dynamics that can be analyzed only by an interdisciplinary approach.

Tuesday, January 16th 2018
4-6 p.m.
Institute of Ethnology
Stadtstraße 21, Raum STU 105 (2.10)

Everybody is welcome!