



Dr. Dr. habil. Markus Wriedt

**Joint appointed Professor of Theology/Historical Theology at Goethe University Frankfurt/Main
and Marquette University, Milwaukee WI**

“Old Europe’s Era of Reformations. Why study Reformation History in an age of secular globalization and religious fragmentation?”

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Emory Clark Hall, Room 111

Free and open to the Public

Taking as its point of departure the historiographical quest for a definition of “reformation,” this lecture will examine the relationship between the 16th century European Reformations and the contemporary process of secularization, and will show how the process of “confessionalization” led to the development of confessional cultures in the European states. Prof. Dr. Markus Wriedt, an internationally-recognized authority on the Reformation period, will draw on the lessons learned from this tumultuous period in history to offer insights regarding the impact and importance of historical research for modern society and culture. In addition to examining the socio-cultural dimension, the presentation will also look at contemporary ecumenical developments and the increasing difference emerging between inter-confessional relations in North America and Europe. The ecumenical dialogues have typically been dominated by systematic theological questions; this presentation will opt instead for a historical approach to contemporary ecumenism and draw out its implications for Christianity in “a secular age.”

Discussion will follow the lecture.

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