

The Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC)  
announces a Lecture  
by

**Prof. Dr. Volkhard Krech**  
**CERES (Centre for Religious Studies) - Ruhr University of Bochum**

**Manuscripts in Relation to Form and Content,  
Medium and Message, and Medium and Form**

Manuscripts might be treated as a special kind of communication media – in contrast to, e.g., printed documents or oral communication. However, does this difference only refer to material aspects, or does it also concern the kind of information that is transported in manuscripts? The talk will address three possible theoretical approaches that might be considered in this respect. First, some approaches in hermeneutics and aesthetics claim a congruence between form and content. Second, from the perspective of media studies, one might distinguish between media and message. The question in this case is in how far a medium of communication influences the transported information, or, the other way round: whether a certain information is bound to a certain medium. Third, the sociologist Niklas Luhmann draws a distinction between medium and form as introduced by the psychologist Fritz Heider. The talk will discuss the mentioned approaches with respect to the understanding of manuscripts.

**Thursday, 11 July 2019 at 6 pm**  
Room 0001, CSMC