Theology is not a child's play. It sometimes touches on dangerous memories, explosive social and political constellations and problematic assertions of identity. Those who handle the embers of religious convictions should familiarise themselves with how to defuse conflicts. The Doctoral Students' Days will present some exemplary challenges, the handling of which will put the relevance of theological and religious studies up for discussion anew. In comparison to the cliché idea of a dusty and quiet field of work, the aspects of an intellectual, existential and social adventure will be emphasised, which are formative for a professional engagement with religion and require a demanding and reflected ethos.

The Doctoral Students' Days of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Fribourg address all the doctoral students of the faculty and will be accompanied this year by Prof. Dr. Walter Lesch (UCLouvain: https://uclouvain.be/fr/repertoires/walter.lesch). Within the framework of these days, you are invited to shed light on the conference topic from the perspective of your own subject and research focus and to present your findings in a short lecture and put them up for discussion. This will give you the opportunity to discuss the content of your research with an interdisciplinary group of doctoral researchers. Your presentation should be related to the topic of the conference. The following topics are conceivable, but can be supplemented by other approaches:

- Philosophical and social-scientific debates on identity and their significance for theology
- On the critical role of religion and theology in contemporary society
- In the concert of the sciences. Theology and other sciences related to religion
- Religious pluralisation (e.g. through migration) and its consequences for society and theology
- Church and theology under the conditions of modernity
- The contribution of religion and theology to normative orientation in the contemporary world.
We request an exposé (approx. 2,000 characters) with a precise title by 31.05.2022 (decanat-theol@unifr.ch). This should briefly outline the content of the presentation and include personal details. After reviewing the exposés, the preparatory group will draw up the exact program and contact you. The short presentations should not exceed 15 minutes. Afterwards there will be an opportunity for discussion. Presentations can be given in French, German or English.

On behalf of the preparatory group

Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Mariano Delgado