



CAS-E

Alternative Rationalities and
Esoteric Practices from a Global Perspective

LECTURE SERIES SUMMER SEMESTER 2025

Tuesdays | 6.15–7.45 pm

Seminar room, Hartmannstr. 14, Building D1, Erlangen

Link for virtual attendance: <https://fau.zoom-x.de/j/62556506187>



APRIL 29, 2025	Dr. Steven Engler (CAS-E Fellow) Views of Healing among Brazilian Spiritists and Medical Professionals	JUNE 17, 2025	Dr. Eszter Spät (CAS-E Fellow) “Divination through the “Written Word” in Yezidi Oral Tradition: ‘Bookish’ Techniques of Prognostication as Sources of Esoteric Knowledge”
MAY 06, 2025	Sr. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Fredrik Gregorius (Linköping University) Dreams of an Enchanted Africa: Esoteric Images of African Diaspora Religions in the 19th and 20th Centuries	JUNE 24, 2025	Asst. Prof. Sergio González Varela (CAS-E Fellow) Facing the Limits of the Extra- Cultural: Discovering “What You Cannot Learn” Through Pain, Body Transformation, and Performance in Afro-Brazilian Capoeira
MAY 13, 2025	Assoc. Prof. M. Shobhana Xavier (CAS-E Fellow) Saintly Shrines and Ruptures of Temporalities: Sufi Past and Futures in Post-War Sri Lanka	JULY 01, 2025	Prof. Dr. Birgit Meyer (Utrecht University) Translating Spirits
MAY 20, 2025	Prof. Deborah Kapchan (New York University) Face to Face with the Spirits: Paradox and the Anthropology of the Esoteric	JULY 08, 2025	Dr. Lili DiPuppo (CAS-E Fellow) “Sufi Practices and Knowledge through Surrender: Developing a New Knowledge Approach in and for Uncertain Times”
MAY 27, 2025	Dr. Marta Hanson (DFG-funded CAS-E Associated Researcher) “Knowing Hands: Thinking With the Mind in Hand in Chinese Medicine and Divination”	JULY 15, 2025	Dr. Oleg Yarosh (DFG- funded CAS-E Associated Researcher) “Spiritual Practices of Sufis in the West”
JUNE 03, 2025	Prof. Stephan Palmié (CAS-E Fellow) “Wittgenstein among the Santeros”	JULY 22, 2025	Dr. Jessica Albrecht (FAU, CAS-E Associated Researcher) “Buddhist Psychology as Esoteric Activism”
JUNE 10, 2025	Assoc. Prof. Davide Torri (Sapienza University of Rome) “Nepalese Ghost Stories from Sacred Texts to Social Media”		



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Funded by



Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft
German Research Foundation

