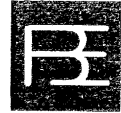




Universität Hamburg

Fachbereich Erziehungswissenschaft in der  
Fakultät für Erziehungswissenschaft,  
Psychologie und Bewegungswissenschaft



Arbeitsstelle für  
Interkulturelle Bildung  
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To Whom It May Concern

1. September 2005  
<Zeichen>

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Dear Madam/ Dear Sir

### **Florian Pohl: Teaching Profile**

During the period 1999 to 2001 Florian Pohl worked with me officially as a "Teaching Assistant" in the Institute for Religious Education. In 1999, because I was new to Germany, it was arranged that we would co-teach the courses. In this capacity he was responsible for an evenly shared task of presenting lectures and facilitating seminars in the fields of Intercultural and Interreligious Education, both in English and in German. The courses we taught included introductions to World Religions and to the Pedagogy of Religion, and the Didactics of Sacred Texts. It was an opportunity to see him teaching on a range of topics, to a range of audiences, and from this experience I have no hesitation in ranking Florian Pohl in the forefront of the top five percent of lecturers I know.

The initial and lasting impression is his considerable enthusiasm for the subject at hand. He is tireless in his questioning existing knowledge and in his willingness to explore new fields. For students this was a rare opportunity, and several I know continue to refer to those teaching encounters as a turning point in their own careers. It was for me a particularly rewarding experience to work with someone of his ability. He is always very well prepared and is able to make complex issues accessible to students. Exceptional communication skills and social ability are matched by a razor-sharp understanding of issues. In the classroom, Florian Pohl has shown himself to be a capable group facilitator who is able to draw students into lively discussions and fruitful debates. His lectures are thoroughly prepared and ably presented.

During our co-operation we published an article together, "Menschenrechte und die Begegnung der Kulturen," in *Lade Deine Nachbarn ein: Didaktische Arbeitshilfe* (Frankfurt am Main: Arbeitsgemeinschaft Christlicher Kirchen, 2000). As a researcher he demonstrates a rare ability to engage in theoretical reflection when addressing practical issues. He is able to evaluate and organise data with confidence and ease. Enthusiasm, creative ability and a team spirit characterise his contributions. Mr. Pohl is an excellent writer, researcher and teacher. He is a pleasure to know and to work with. I have absolutely no hesitation in supporting his application.



Professor Gordon Mitchell