

**Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg –  
Skandinavisches Seminar  
Network partner of j o l n e s –  
Joint Learning in Northern European Studies**



An interview with **Prof. Dr. Joachim Grage** (Albert-Ludwigs Universität Freiburg – Skandinavisches Seminar)

## **Transcription**

### **Teaching in the j o l n e s - network**

#### **Prof. Dr. Joachim Grage**

I gave an advanced seminar in the summer term of 2020, that is, in the first Covid-19 term, with the title "Strangers in their own country - Jews in 19<sup>th</sup> century Scandinavian narrative literature". I think that was the title. I can't quite get it together any more. And it went very well, although it was my first seminar with exclusively online teaching, thanks to the professional support I had. Perhaps it went so well because students from other universities chose this course specifically and were also very interested in the topic, some of them were already very well acquainted with the topic, because they had perhaps already dealt with Judaism in literature in other contexts, and that raised the professional level of the course considerably without scaring my students off. I thought that was great. It led to great discussions among the students. We had the opportunity to do breakout sessions in video format and there were incredibly good discussions, which then continued after the seminar. A whole series of students are now writing their Bachelor's thesis on this topic and you notice that they are still in contact with the other students and ask questions. And there was, among others, an expert who knew a lot about the history of Judaism, much better than I did, and who was always able to contribute detailed historical knowledge and who is now being contacted again and again. I think it's great that there is this networking. And I think that was also a bit due to this online format. This meant that the integration of the different groups was not really a problem, because in front of the screen everyone is alone and it doesn't matter whether the neighbour is in Cologne, Vienna or Freiburg. And that simply created a great learning group.

## Credits

The interview was conducted on June 07 2021 via Zoom.

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