

Kathleen Wermke, Ph.D.

**Name:** Kathleen Wermke, Ph.D.  
**Born:** June 10, 1960 in Schwerin, Germany  
**Marital status:** married, 2 children

## Education

1978 - 1982 Studies in plant / animal physiology and behavioural sciences  
Humboldt-University (HU) of Berlin

1983 M.Sc. (Diploma, with honors), Behavioural Sciences, HU Berlin

1982 - 1986 Ph.D. student, University Clinics (Charité), HU Berlin

1987 Doctoral Thesis (PhD) in Biology (summa cum laude)

1986 - 1989 Research Fellow, Dept. of Biology, University Clinics (Charité),  
Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany

2002 Habilitation, Humboldt-University of Berlin and *venia legendi* in  
Medical Anthropology

1989 - 2003 Research Fellow, Institute of Anthropology, Center for  
Humanities and Health Sciences, University Clinics (Charité),  
Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany

since 2003 University Professor, Founding Director and Head of the Center  
for Pre-Speech Development & Developmental Disorders,  
Julius-Maximilians-University Würzburg, Germany

## Research experience

2017 / 2018 Erskine Fellowship University of Canterbury, NZ

1999 - 2006 Research Fellow of the Gruter Institute for Law and Behavioral  
Research, Portola Valley, CA, USA

1996 Short-Term Lectureship, German Academic Exchange Service  
(DAAD), Universidad de Oriente / Santiago de Cuba, Cuba

1990 Research Fellow, University of Havana (Cuba), Biological  
Faculty, Dept. of Bioacoustics, and Institute of Anthropology

## Professional activities

2001 Member, Advisory Board of the Gruter Institute for Law and  
Behavioral Research, Portola Valley & Würzburg Office

since 1996 Member, German Center for Growth and Development, Berlin

2002 - 2006 Vice Chairman, German Center for Growth and Development,  
Berlin

- since 2012      Appointed Member of the Ethics Committee at the University Clinics Würzburg, Germany
- since 2014      Appointed member of the Doctoral Commission for Public Health

**Research areas and courses**

- Pre-speech and early language development (0-2 year), incl. cross-cultural comparisons
- Pre-speech and language development in at-risk children (CLP; sensori-neuro hearing loss)
- Intervention strategies for rehabilitation in infants with cleft-lip-palate and / or sensori-neuro hearing loss from a developmental perspective
- Genetic, epigenetic and external factors influencing brain development in infants – special focus on motor and language regions
- Psychomotor development in infants and children (0-2 years)