The talk examines the discursive formations of Ayurveda as a healing practice that is entangled between religion and medicine. Looking at the historical developments of Ayurveda in Germany and the characterization of Ayurveda through different academic disciplines, the talk addresses the positions of Ayurveda practitioners in the German health care system in relation to religion and medicine, and how this affects the practitioner-patient interaction and the struggle for an official acknowledgement of Ayurveda.