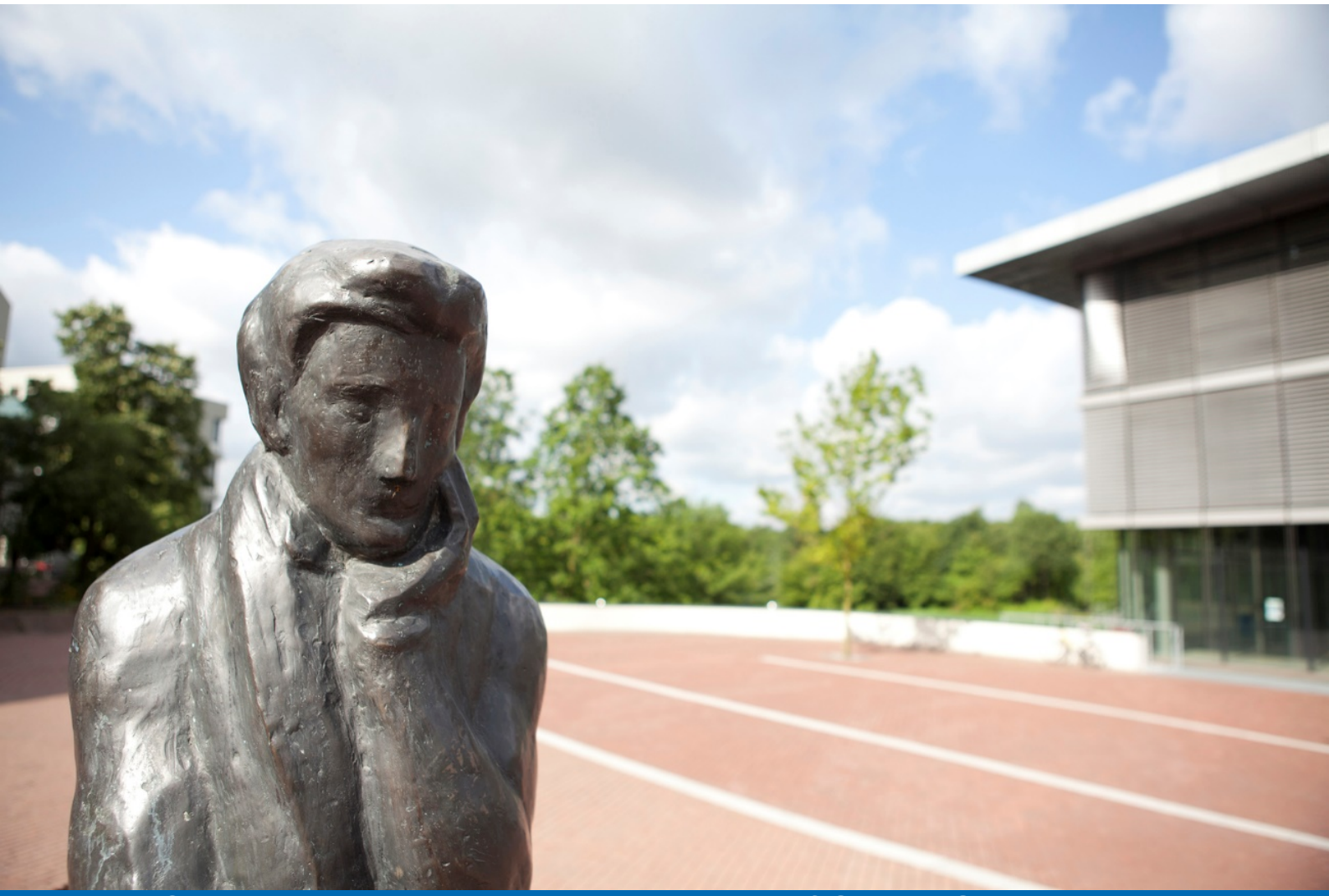
Heinrich Heine
Universität Düsseldorf



Courses in English at the Institute of Social Sciences

Bachelor & Master

Summer Term 2021 and Winter Term 2021/2022

Summer Term 2021

Bachelor Courses

Media and Communication Studies

Digital Literacy in a Culture of Digitality

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Media and Communication Studies, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Anna Soßdorf
Level	advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Thursdays, 2.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

In a world with endless possibilities to get information and knowledge about anything, it is more than ever crucial to know how to navigate in this environment. While it was important in the past to learn the cultural techniques of writing and reading, today it is the Digital Literacy that we need to master in order to navigate in a Culture and Society of Digitality.

In this seminar we will first get to know and discuss the different relevant concepts of Digital Literacy as well as the understanding of Digitality. On this basis we will analyze the relevance and impact of Digital Literacy for different systems of our society (e.g. Education, Civic Society, Economics, Science, Politics) along with the implicated opportunities and challenges for individuals. Furthermore, we will explore and compare, how Digital Literacy is discussed in the international context. Lastly, we will delve into concepts and ideas of some foresight literature.

Students will be expected to prepare the presented literature, videos and podcast for the discussion within the seminar. Also there will be time for cooperative and creative learning in groups, in which digital outputs will be produced with digital tools (e.g. mindmaps, videos).

The seminar will be held in English language. Therefore the students will be given the opportunity to practice reading, speaking and argumentative skills in English on the topic of the seminar with fellow students and the lecturer.

Public Opinion and Political Discourse

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Media and Communication Studies, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Thomas Unterberg
Level	intermediate bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 6 CP (with final exam)
Times	Wednesdays, 2.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

With a focus on the elections in the USA this course will show how political campaigns are conceptualized as competitions among political actors seeking to gain influence on the public sphere. Since in modern societies the mass media are the most important channel by which the public sphere is constituted, the competing political parties and candidates try to influence the content of the media in a way that is favorable to their communication goals. Media content can therefore be understood as the result of an interaction between political actors and the mass media.

Myths of the Digital Society

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Media and Communication Studies, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Marco Lünich
Level	bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 6 CP (with final exam)
Times	Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

There is no question that digitalization is influencing more and more areas of private and public life. It is argued that the use of digital media such as computers, smartphones as well as drones and sensors such as smartwatches and trackers of bodily functions is supposed to help people to live, communicate and work better. But with the datafication and quantification of many areas of life, it also becomes clear time and again that digitalization has, in addition to all expectations of salvation, quite some downsides and negative consequences that affect the privacy of the individual and the social fabric of society. An intensive study of current research literature in the fields of online privacy, big data, artificial intelligence and self-tracking is intended to provide a comprehensive understanding of the theories and empirical findings of research on social change when it comes to digital technologies. With this information at hand, especially, we will focus on the public discourse concerning the promises and pitfalls of the Digital Society. Upon successful completion of the seminar, all participants will be enabled to independently analyze and critically evaluate the opportunities and risks of current media technologies and to develop their own research questions and empirical research designs.

Political Science

The Populist Radical Right in Western Europe

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Guiseppe Gicollini (Dr. Lucy Kinski)
Level	intermediate bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 6 CP (with final exam)
Times	Fullday meeting on July 9,10,16 and 17 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Radical right populism needs no introduction. Populist radical right parties have emerged in the 80s in the Western European public sphere. Since then, they have established themselves in several party systems, and occasionally event participated in government. As a political phenomenon, they represent the most prominent novelty of the last decades across borders. The reasons for its success (and failure) are very much debated among the public opinion and policymakers. This course aims at introducing students to academic knowledge on radical right populism. Scholars have gathered important evidence on this phenomenon, although blind spots are still present. Firstly, students will get a comprehensive overview of the key features of the populist radical right under several aspects: its history, its ideology, its voters. This will be complemented by two case studies: France and the German-speaking countries. We will conclude the first block by highlighting how other political actors reacted to the success of populist radical right parties. Finally, we will turn to the causes of the emergence of the populist radical right. These will be discussed from a multidisciplinary perspective, drawing on studies from political science, sociology, economics, and – to a lesser extent – psychology and communication science. Emphasis will be put on the demand-side explanations. Finally, we will conclude on the consequences of radical right populism for politics in the Western world.

Elections and Voting Behavior

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Lena Masch
Level	Advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Tuesdays, 10.30 a.m. – 12 noon

t.b.a.

International Conflict Resolution

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Witold Mucha
Level	advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Wednesdays 9.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

The course will focus on the theory and practice of international conflict resolution with specific references to the classification, causes, development, conduct, management, and outcomes. Particular emphasis will be placed on the process of bargaining, negotiation and (third party) conflict resolution. To this end, an analysis will be made of case studies with specific reference to international conflict resolution. The course aims at providing both an understanding of what constitutes conflict resolution, in addition to evaluating the debates within the field of conflict resolution. Through examining case studies from across the globe, you will become proficient in understanding the nuances generated by the history and evolution of a conflict, the nature of the actors involved, the timing of peace negotiations, the power and ability of mediating parties, and the socio-economic conditions in the area of conflict, among others. You will be challenged to reflect why some conflict resolution processes succeed and others fail. You will learn about factors that encourage one or the other outcome. Finally, you will engage with mediators involved in conflict resolution processes and understand the critical role that these play. After the course, you should be able to answer the following questions:

1. What is international conflict resolution?

2. What are the competing theories about international conflict resolution?

3. Who are the primary actors in international conflict resolution?

4. What is the interaction between the different actors in international conflict resolution?

5. What are the major challenges faced in international conflict resolution practice?

The international cross-site seminar will take place in cooperation with the **Kyung Hee University, South Korea, and the University of Pretoria, South Africa**. Conducted as blended learning, the seminar will consist of joint sessions via live-stream as well as e-learning elements in which students from Seoul, Pretoria, and Düsseldorf work together. In addition to the usual required reading, preparatory work for the seminar will include expert videos which will discuss the respective topic. In this regard, the key objective of the seminar will not only be to impart students the best possible expertise on international conflict resolution but to broaden perspectives due to interaction with international students as well as experts. Student´s work such as term papers, input videos, or radio features will be made use of in an Open Educational Resources (OER) framework (see https://cross-site-teaching.phil.hhu.de/). Therefore, good command of English and the willingness to be closely involved in international cross-site student task-forces will be required. Due to the demanding technical implementation and content requirements, the advanced course is aimed at BA-students in higher semesters or MA-students.

European Environmental Policy

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Jörg Waldmann
Level	Advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Di 14.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

The European Union claims having some of the world's highest environmental standards greening Europe and many European policies. Environmental Policy on EU level developed incrementally throughout the last four decades and in this seminar we aim to trace back these process.The seminar will address changing modes of environmental governance, means to integrate environmental thinking into other policies, EU's understanding of sustainability as well as EU's efforts to mitigate climate change.

Students are required to regularly attend classes, to regularly read the assigned texts for the classes, and to introduce one of the assigned readings in a group presentation.

Global Governance

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Ingo Take
Level	Advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Thursdays, 10.30 a.m. – 12 noon

t.b.a.

Sociology

Sociology of Religion: Lines of Thought, Comparative Perspectives and Diverging Dynamics

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Sociology, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Tilo Beckers
Level	advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Tuesdays, 8.30 a.m. – 10 am

The advanced seminar (Vertiefungsseminar) will provide a basic introduction of the sociology of religion with a particular focus on religious change and its social consequences during the past 30 to 60 years. We will focus on specific aspects of religion and religiosity in cross-national and cross-cultural comparisons. First we will approach the phenomena of religion and religiosity (part I) and get to know selected lines of thought in the sociology of religion (II). Next, we will look at comparative perspectives and opposing paradigms, namely the debates around secularization, the revival of religion, religious individualization, and other forms of religious change, i.e. religiosity and religion as explananda (III). Finally, we will discuss diverging dynamics and trends: religious resurgence and immigration, non-religiosity and secularism (IV). This will be done by reading comparative empirical studies on a range of topics. A particular focus will be to identify the links between the macro and the micro level in explanatory models. All participants will also get to know a range of methods in the sociology of religion as well as secondary comparative data sources on religion. These aggregate and individual level data may be used for case-oriented and multilevel empirical survey research on religious change and its social consequences.

Summer Term 2021

Master Courses

Political Science

A new electorate? Immigrants as Political Actors in the US and Western Europe

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Dennis Spies
Level	Master course
ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Tuesdays 10.30 am – 12 noon

Large-scale immigration is one of the most prominent challenges facing developed countries around the world. As far as the European Union is concerned, member states as Germany (12,8%), France (12,0%), and the Netherlands (11,6%) now face shares of the population not being born in their countries, which are very comparable to these that we find in classical countries of immigration, e.g. in the USA (13,1% of foreign-born population). The consequences of these demographic changes are at least as heatedly discussed as the actual numbers. As international immigration by definition means that people from one country come to live in another, it is a measure of the increased number of residents with different languages, religions, and ethnicities compared with the native population. Consequently, the most prominent debates have developed about questions of immigrant integration into their host societies, be it economic, social, or cultural. However, compared with these very elaborated debates, the aspect of the political integration of immigrants still remains largely unexplored. Do immigrants form a distinct electorate compared with native citizens when it comes to political participation, preferences, and voting? What is the relationship between political integration and the – well-researched – other dimensions of the integration concept? What motivates immigrants to run for office and what are their chances in the electoral arena? Do immigrants care at all about the politics of their host society or are they politically disinterested if not apathic? These questions are of crucial societal and immediate political importance for the host societies – and are at the core of this course. The course also introduces concepts and theories that can be used to study immigrants as well as individuals in general – theories of electoral research, party competition, and welfare state research being among them.

Business and European Integration

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Hartwig Hummel
Level	Master course
ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Thursdays 10.30 am – 12 noon
	Access to this course is limited, participation cannot be guaranteed

Contents

The course addresses the specific role of business benefiting from, and thus advancing, European integration. Topics include issues and actors relating to agricultural, manufacturing, and services industries, as well as financial markets. We will discuss the role of business interest groups and decision-making processes in EU institutions. The seminar covers EU policies relating to the free movement of goods, capital, services, and people, industrial policy and state subsidies, competition policy, supervision of financial markets, and corporate social responsibility.

Course Objectives and Teaching Approach

The seminar will be based on weekly readings of assigned texts and discussions in class, prepared by teams of 2-3 students. Students will prepare assigned texts in advance of each class and document this preparation is a short reading diary. Student teams will prepare class discussion with a short input, in which they will present their critical review of the assigned text. At the end of the term, you should be familiar with the Europeanization of business interest groups and their impact on European integration. In addition, the course serves as an opportunity to train research skills, in particular presenting an academic argument and drafting an analytical paper.

The Evolution of a European Public Sphere

Term	Summer Term 2021
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Jörg Waldmann
Level	Master course
ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Thursdays 8.30 am – 10.30 a.m.
	Access to this course is limited, participation cannot be guaranteed

There are many barriers to a real European public sphere. Should they be overcome, and if yes, how? In which sectors of society we are already living in a European public sphere? The course starts with elaborating on the theoretical implications of public spheres. Yet the main part of the seminar is devoted to case studies which touch upon very different aspects of society (culture, economy, sports, media, habits etc.).

The course is delivered through a combination of assigned readings, group research and presentations. With the help of groups, students will explore the Europeanization of the public sphere in a variety of fields.

Certificates of attendance require participation in group presentations or minor research projects. The module is assessed by oral examinations. A detailed course outline, further information and relevant literature will be provided via course website.

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Winter Term 2021/2022

Bachelor Courses

The overview of courses for the winter term 2021/2022 is preliminary.
We expect more courses to be announced.

Media and Communication Studies

Political Marketing American Style

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Media and Communication Studies, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Thomas Unterberg
Level	intermediate bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 6 CP (with final exam)
Times	Mondays 4.30 pm – 6 pm

With a focus on the presidential elections 2016 in the USA this course will show how political marketing is used in the competition among political actors seeking to gain influence on the public sphere. Increasingly, voters choose parties and candidates like consumers choose products. The competing political parties and candidates therefore try to use political marketing to influence the public and the content of the media in a way that is favorable to their communication goals. Political marketing can therefore be understood as a tool designed to influence the public about political candidates and issues.

Uses and Effects of Social Media

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Media and Communication Studies, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Merja Mahrt
Level	advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 (without final exam), 8 (with final exam)
Times	Wendesdays 12.30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Social media, such as social network sites (Facebook), blogs, or video platforms (YouTube), are among the most popular types of offerings visited on the Internet. Some of them offer unique features that involve a mixture of interpersonal and more far-reaching communi-cation. In other instances, content traditionally used via other channels (television, radio, or newspapers, for instance) can be used, distributed, and modified by users of social media. Both developments challenge existing theories, empirical notions of media uses and effects, as well as methodological practices for their research. We will look at the current literature on different types of social media in order to discuss the following questions: How can social media use be adequately studied? What can communication research tell us about how and why social media are used? And what cognitive, emotional, or other effects result from this usage? Due to the usual time-lag of scholarly publications, we will also discuss now almost forgotten, but once popular social media (e.g., MySpace). What made them attractive in the first place and why did users turn away after a while?

Social Media, Digitisation and the Everyday: An Introduction to Digital Ethics

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Media and Communication Studies, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU

Lecturer	Oliver Zöllner
Level	advanced bacholar course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	t.b.a.

Digitisation and especially the use of social networking sites have changed the lifestyles and daily routines of a great number of people. The most fundamental changes, however, may not even be quite so easily visible to most people, and that is the reworking of how we live together: what kind of society we are, and the economic backbone of society, namely capitalism. In addition, humans start to conceptualise themselves in new forms and fashions: no longer first and foremost as autonomous individual beings, but increasingly as entities oriented towards new forms of collectivity. This is striking since, paradoxically, a classic promise of capitalism is to reach out to each and everyone on highly individualistic terms (think Amazon, think Facebook et al.).

How do we as members of digitising society, as inhabitants of Digitality (with a capital D), cope with these new quotidian patterns, concepts, and paradoxes? What are our new values, and emerging norms, for living in this new society? How do we tackle challenges like permanent data exploitation (a.k.a. "people-farming"), the increasing struggle for privacy, the utopian promises and dystopian threats of artificial intelligence (AI), or a far-reaching surveillance capitalism? Quite simply put: what does it mean to be human in the digital age? What do we do with those digital devices, platforms, and applications - or they to us? In what ways does the digital infrastructure form our worldview? Are we happy about our new kind of existence? Or just too lazy to care? We will explore the classic idea of ethics, will apply new approaches from the sub-discipline of digital ethics to our everyday life, and will try to develop concepts for living a flourishing life under the conditions set by digitisation (or by whom, really?). We'll need to start to think about these processes.

Political Science

Counterinsurgence, Counterterrorism, Counterintelligence

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Witold Mucha
Level	Advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Not only since the recent controversial withdrawal of NATO from Afghanistan in the summer of 2021 has peace and conflict research been concerned with questions of counterinsurgency (COIN), counterterrorism (CT) and counterintelligence (CI). In view of the concepts that are often not used in a clear-cut manner in the debate and the numerous gray areas in armed violent conflicts, the aim of the in-depth seminar is to provide an overview of the theory and empirics of COIN, CT and CI. It is not only about the contents of those concepts, but especially about their overlaps as well as local implementation. What are the specific challenges on the ground and what are the security implications for policymakers? Miller's (2021) paper on U.S. strategy in Afghanistan is a good introduction to the in-depth seminar: https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/afghanistan/2021-01-22/myth-responsible-withdrawal-afghanistan.

Military Assistance and Third-Party Intervention. Lessons from Yemen and Syria

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Natalia Tellidou, Dr. Gregor Zons
Level	intermediate bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 6 CP (with final exam)
Times	Fullday meeting on October 29 & 30, November 5 & 6, from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Syria's civil war in 2011 has raised a lot of debates regarding the role of international actors and nonstate actors in the conflict. This points to the fact that, external interventions, either in military or nonmilitary forms, is prevalent aspect of the conflict and worthy of scholarly attention. Moreover, the debate in the field about "New" and "Old" wars has continue to change the perspectives we analyze civil wars, and the Syrian civil war. Indeed, whether Syria is a proxy war for some states while a civil war for some others have led to many policy analyses that explain the particularities of the case. In addition, Syria provides an excellent opportunity to evaluate the empirical research on the field of civil wars and possibly raise issues regarding our theories and concepts that we use to explain civil wars.

A step towards disentangling the complexities of a civil war and also provide a more nuanced analysis is to engage with existing scholarly research on civil war and external intervention and gain more knowledge on the specific of the case. For that reason, the course focuses on bringing theory and practice together. The first two days are geared towards gaining familiarity with key concepts of civil wars, external interventions, and the debate on the "New" wars. In the meantime, through interactive activities the students will start putting together the pieces of the Syrian puzzle and acquiring a historical background to the case. For the remaining of the course, we will focus more on the Syria case, and applying the theories to the case. Equipped

with theoretical background, conceptual tools and basic knowledge of the case this second part of the course will put into test theories and debates that exist in the field.

The learning outcomes of this course are three folded. Firstly, students will recognize characteristics of civil wars and describe what a civil war is and how it relates to other forms of political violence. Throughout the course activities with real cases will prompt students to apply their knowledge on civil wars to discuss in groups and explain possible causes of a civil war. Moreover, students will be in a position to discuss the “New Wars” debate and constructively debate characteristics of New vs Old Wars analysing the case of Syria. In addition, students based on their knowledge of the Syria case they will be able to explain the actions of the international external actors, that are mainly states, and their motivations to engage in the Syrian civil war. For that purpose, students will discuss extensively questions like, “Why did this state acted the way it did?” or “Why did this leader acted the way she did?”. The evaluation of the course in the form of written work and short presentation aims at enabling students to demonstrate their developing knowledge on civil wars and also to discuss and interpret academic papers on civil war.

Russian Foreign Policy - An Introduction

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Waldemar Petker
Level	intermediate bachelor course
ECTS	2
Times	Thursdays 12.30 pm – 2 pm

This course examines Russian foreign policy following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. The aim of the course is to offer students a basic grounding in the roots of Russia’s post-Soviet policy, the continuities and discontinuities between the past and present and the origin of the current crisis in Russia-West relations. Particular importance will be given to the role of Gorbachev’s “new thinking”, and to the foreign policy of the Russian Federation as it has unfolded under Putin, Medvedev and Putin again. Learning outcomes of this course include the application of international relations theory to the study of Russian foreign policy as well as detailed knowledge about key issue areas of Russia’s international relations.

In the seminar the student will be given the opportunity to practice speaking and argumentative skills and to conduct an academic discourse on the topic of the seminar with fellow students and the lecturer.

The Political Economy of Development

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Svenja Rüter, Dr. Gregor Zons
Level	intermediate bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 6 CP (with final exam)
Times	Fullday meeting on November 26 & 27, December 3 & 4, from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Why are some nations rich, while others are poor? The course ‘Political Economy of

Development' is dedicated to deal systematically with this oldest question of political economy. The course aims at introducing the academic study of development for general social scientists. The course presents major trends and changes in the development theory and their bearings on development policy and practice, critically discussing concepts of development and the emergence and evolution of paradigms in development thinking.

The knowledge of economics or political science is not required to attend the course. The language of instruction is English.

Election Fraud and the role of trust in politics

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Maike Rump
Level	advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Thursdays 2.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

5 percent of German society do not trust in the correct procedure of elections. 28 percent agree with the statement: The political climate in Germany is different to what the election results tell us. Quick maths tells us that these are not predominantly voters of extremist parties or those who do not vote. Literature shows that these attitudes correlate highly with conspiracy beliefs and mistrust in (political) institutions.

In this course we examine the phenomenon of election fraud and the mare of the stolen vote in the US presidential election and shed light on the role of (alternative) media, conspiracy theory and mistrust in politics.

Polarization and Democracy

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Torben Lütjen, Julian Pöhling
Level	advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Wendesdays 12.30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

t.b.a

Sociology

German Social Structure in Comparative Perspective

Bachelor Courses

Winter Term 2021/2022

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Sociology, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Prof. Peter Hartmann
Level	advanced bachelor course
ECTS	2 CP (without final exam), 8 CP (with final exam)
Times	Monday, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

The purpose of this class is to discuss selected readings in German demographic and socioeconomic structures. Topics include fertility, life transitions, family structure, home ownership, the welfare state, social mobility, migration and acculturation, as well as cultural styles. Obviously, the majority of books and papers on German demography and social structure are written in German. This class, however, is intended to allow an English language discussion of matters peculiar to Germany. Most readings treat Germany as one case within wider comparative studies. Readings were selected with the intention of presenting a picture of recent high-end comparative research on social structure. In order to overcome initial difficulties in understanding complex analytical and statistical issues, the first meetings will be dedicated to a short introduction to the methodological background of modern social structure analysis.

Master Courses

Winter Term 2021/2022

The overview of courses for the winter term 2021/2022 is preliminary.
We expect more courses to be announced.

Political Science

Democracy in the European Union

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Hartwig Hummel
Level	Master course
ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Wendesday, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

The seminar focuses on the democratic quality of the European Union. As policy-making has shifted to a remarkable extent to the EU-level, the question of democratic legitimacy of the processes and the output of the decision-making in these supranational structures has emerged within the last decades. Many scholars of political science have addressed the issue, however they could agree neither on a common diagnosis nor on an endeavour to effectively democratize the political system of the European Union. On the basis of the academic discussion, the seminar will intensively look at the arguments in the debate which support or question the alleged existence of a democratic deficit in the European Union. Furthermore we will address proposed remedies to solve the democratic problem e.g. by parliamentarization, by deliberative democracy or by direct participation of the citizens. One central finding of our discussions might be that the concept as well as the operationalization of democracy beyond nation state has to be reviewed. For each class all students are asked to prepare the assigned reading (approx. 15-30 pages/week). In-class participation is considered obligatory.

EU Foreign Policy in a Changing World

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Jörg Waldmann
Level	Master course
ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Tuesday, 9:30 p.m. – 12:00 noon

The European Union, representing more than 500 million citizens and the world's largest internal market, is acknowledged as an economic superpower. European Institutions conduct a tremendous number of external policies and assemble a large range of competencies to do so. However, the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), incorporated into the integration process by the Maastricht Treaty in 1992, has to be perceived as a latecomer. Since most CFSP provisions are related to intergouvernmental decision-making, many scholars doubt that a coherent foreign policy will ever be possible.

This class, though, will put particular emphasis on CFSP and the accompanying Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDF). The historic developments and achievements have to be addressed as well as current problems and shortcomings in this policy area. After analysing and assessing CFSP polity, policy and politics we will explore how Europeanization affected and affects Member States. Selected national foreign policies and their contribution to CFSP

have to be compared in this second block.

Active participation requires a full set of reading notes for all assigned texts and the presentation of one of the assigned texts for class discussion. A detailed course outline, further information and relevant literature will be provided via the course website at ILIAS.

The EU as an Actor in Global Governance

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Jörg Waldmann
Level	Master course
ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Beyond its policies covered by the CFSP umbrella the European Union is a major actor in different fora of global governance. How can we sketch EU's actorness in global politics? What is formative on Europe's democratic agenda? Beside these introducing questions the class intends to investigate and assess more civilian external policies of the EU. Special emphasis will be put on the Union's contribution to global environmental governance and climate change regimes or EU's development policy.

Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Gregor Zons, Svenja Rüter
Level	Master course
ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Fullday meeting on January 14, 15, 21 & 22 from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m

This master course offers an introduction to qualitative research methods in social and political research. The main aim of the course is to familiarize students with key concepts and procedures of qualitative research design such as research puzzle, literature review, theory, hypotheses, case selection, and data collection and analysis. By the end of the course, students will have a general understanding of how qualitative research is designed and conducted.

The course has four parts. The first is concerned with the crafting of research puzzles and qualitative research designs. In the second part, we turn to methods of data collection: Interviewing, Ethnography, and Archival Work. The third part deals with fieldwork challenges: Ethics, Positionality, and Safety. The fourth part provides an overview of methods of data analysis: Textual Analysis, Discourse Analysis,

Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA), and Quantitative Text Analysis. We will focus on readings that either explain the purpose and logic of these methods, or apply them, or provide guidance on how to carry out the research.

The course is structured as a seminar, with parts dedicated to lecturing and parts dedicated to student input (discussion of the readings, questions) under the teacher's supervision. This will give students the opportunity for both passive and active participation in the class. As a course addressed to undergraduate students, there are no pre-requisites. However, students are assigned mandatory readings for each session. The group of students in charge of the session also reads the complementary readings. Accordingly, the course proceeds from an Anglo-Saxon/American academic culture granting students significant autonomy in the learning process, although it ensures that they acquire basic knowledge of the topic through lecture deliveries. Student engagement with the teaching material is tested through in-class discussions based on the readings.

Populist Parties in Comparison

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Gregor Zons
Level	Master course
ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Thursdays 10.30 a.m. – 12 noon

Populist parties have established themselves in many developed democracies. Party research deals with their ideological and organisational characteristics. It also addresses their impact on party competition and party systems. After clarifying populism and populist parties as concepts, the seminar takes a comparative perspective on the two strands of research mentioned above. Based on empirical studies, it focuses on

- the behaviour and impact of populist parties in and on party competition,
- their electoral performance,
- their behaviour in government, and
- their party organisation.

Through the seminar, students will learn to unpack central concepts, handle (mainly quantitative) empirical studies by extracting their research designs (research questions, theory, hypotheses, empirical analysis), and putting them in the context of the broader themes of the seminar. To achieve these goals, the seminar uses interactive formats that rely on the preparation of all participants before each seminar session. Active participation and engagement throughout the course are expected.

Civilizing Impacts of European Integratio

Term	Winter Term 2021/2022
Department	Political Science, Institute of Social Sciences, HHU
Lecturer	Dr. Jörg Waldmann
Level	Master course

ECTS	3 CP (without final exam), 9 CP (with final exam)
Times	Thursdays 10.30 a.m. – 12 noon

The multi-layered processes of European cooperation and integration constituted an area of peace and security. The use of violence between European states participating in these integration projects seems to be unthinkable today. How does political theory explain this phenomenon? What is crucial about the functionalistic idea of a ‘working peace'? And - can Europe serve as a role model for other regions in the world?

The class aims to provide students with appropriate scientific expertise to answer these questions, or, at least, to come close to a suitable and satisfying answer. Based on Dieter Senghaas' Civilisational Hexagon different aspects of integration will be analysed in order to understand how Europeanization changed conflict management and generated new normative standards.

A detailed course outline, further information and relevant literature will be provided via course website.

We are looking forward to welcoming you
at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf!

The team for internationalization, Institute of Social Sciences

All courses listed are taught in English. They are open to regular as well as to ERASMUS and other international students.

Please note: All information given is subject to change!

For additional information see:

http://www.phil-fak.uni-duesseldorf.de/sozwiss/englische-version/

https://www.phil-fak.uni-duesseldorf.de/sozwiss/internationaloffice/students-from-abroad/

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