M.A. Political Science

Welcome Session

Prof. Dr. Sven-Oliver Proksch
Prof. Dr. Chitralekha Basu
Dr. Tobias Kunstein

01.10.2019, 11 h, Lecture hall XXI (Main Building, 1st floor)
The Political Science Faculty in Cologne

CCCP – The Cologne Center for Comparative Politics

Prof. Dr. André Kaiser
Comparative Political Institutions

Prof. Dr. Christine Trampusch
International Comparative Political Economy and Economic Sociology

Prof. Dr. Ingo Rohlfing, PhD
Methods of Comparative Political Research

Prof. Dr. Sven-Oliver Proksch
European and Multi-Level Politics

From autumn 2019: Prof. Chitralekha Basu, PhD
Empirical Political Theory

Prof. Dr. Thomas Jäger
International Relations

Until 2021: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Leidhold
Political Theory and History of Ideas
Our Master Program

- Take courses across a range of subfields, high flexibility
- International (share of 30% first year students with international educational background)
- Enable you to analyze political phenomena using a range of state-of-the-art research methods
- Develop and carry out an independent research project
- Participate in guest lectures, speaker series, workshops
- Connect to current research projects (most recently: Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute)

Our goal: train the next generation of political scientists, enabling you to embark on a professional career in many areas of politics
Participate!

International Workshop

**INTERNATIONAL PHD-WORKSHOP ON ADVANCES IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS**

**September 24+25, 2019**

Institutshaus | Gottfried-Kalß-Straße 6 | 50931 Köln

www.ccph.uni-koeln.de | www.politik.uni-koeln.de

Events

Talks on Career Perspectives

Debate competition

Simulations and field trips

International Lecture Series

**MICROFOUNDBATIONS OF POLITICS**

SOCIAL PREFERENCES AND POLITICAL BEHAVIOR

University of Cologne
Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences
M.A. Political Science:
Module areas

Comparative Analysis of Political Institutions (I)

Comparative Political Economy (II)

Empirical Democratic Theory (III)

International Relations (IV)

European and Multilevel Politics (V)

Political Science Methods (VI)
Courses, Modules, Groups, Sections

COURSES
Lectures
Advanced seminars
Research projects

M.A. STUDY PROGRAMME
120 credits

MODULES
6 or 9 credits

SECTIONS (OR GROUPS)
6 or 9 or 12 or 24 credits
M.A. Political Science

- Core Section 1: Three lectures (Int’l Relations: seminar) (18 credits)
- Core Section 2: Two seminars (18 credits)
- Three research projects (27 credits)
- Colloquium (9 credits)
- Master’s Thesis (24 credits)
- Modules from other areas/faculties; studies abroad (2x12 or 1x24 credits)
- Courses from other areas/faculties; studies abroad (2x12 or 1x24 credits)
- Master’s Thesis (24 credits)

* TOTAL NUMBER OF ECTS: 120 ECTS = 4 SEMESTER STANDARD PERIOD OF STUDY
# Programme overview M.A. Political Science

## Core and Advanced Section (36 credits)

### Core Modules

- **(18 credits)** choose 3 out of 6
  - Lecture Comparative Political Institutions (6 credits)
  - Lecture Comparative Political Economy (6 credits)
  - Lecture Political Theory and Practice (6 credits)
  - Seminar International Relations (6 credits)
  - Lecture Comparing European Democracies (6 credits)
  - Seminar Research Logic & Design (6 credits)

### Core Modules Seminars

- **(18 credits)** choose 2 out of 6
  - Comparative Political Institutions (9 credits)
  - Comparative Political Economy (9 credits)
  - Empirical Democratic Theory (9 credits)
  - International Relations (9 credits)
  - European Politics (9 credits)
  - Introduction to Quantitative Methods (9 credits)

## Specialisation Section (36 credits)

### Research projects

- **(27 credits)** choose 3 out of 6
  - Comparative Political Institutions (9 credits)
  - Comparative Political Economy (9 credits)
  - Empirical Democratic Theory (9 credits)
  - International Relations (9 credits)
  - European Politics (9 credits)
  - Introduction to Qualitative Methods (9 credits)

### Colloquium

- **(9 credits)**
  - Obligatory module: presentation of M.A. thesis

## Supplementary Section

- **(24 credits)**

## Master's thesis

- **(24 credits)**

## Total: 120 credits
Three modules with introductory courses focusing on methods

• „Research Logic & Design“ (André Kaiser) – summer (core module)

• „Introduction to Quantitative Methods (in R)“ (Bruno Silva) – winter (core module seminar)

• „Introduction to Qualitative Methods“ (Ingo Rohlfing) – winter (specialization module)
Research Logic and Design
(instructor: Prof. Dr. Kaiser)

Type: Seminar. Examination: Presentation + Term paper.
Cycle: Summer term

Content:
• Research Questions
• Conceptualisation
• Hypotheses
• Research designs
• Case selection strategies
• Compiling and analysing data
• Seminal studies in political science
Introduction to Quantitative Methods
(instructor: Dr. Silva)

Type: Seminar. Examination: Portfolio. Cycle: Winter term

Content:
• Learn statistical programming language R
• Sampling and statistical inference
• Estimation and interpretation of the linear regression model
• Automated data collection and visualisation
• Seminal quantitative studies in political science
• Prerequisite for some advanced seminars
Introduction to Qualitative Methods
(instructor: Prof. Rohlfing)

Type: Seminar. Examination: Portfolio. Cycle: Winter term

Content:

• Characteristics of the qualitative paradigm of research
• Seminal qualitative studies in political science
• Qualitative research designs
• Strategies of case selection in qualitative research
• Case study techniques
• Causal effects and causal mechanisms
• Process tracing
Which courses should I take?

• We offer a highly flexible program, but you can take one module only once
• Possible to combine basic methods training with substantive courses
• Some advanced courses with specific methods (e.g. causal inference, big data analysis) will require "intro to quantitative methods"
Advanced methods

Advanced methods – while dealing with substantive questions – are also taught in research projects of module areas I-V. Recommended to take introductory courses prior to advanced.

- Winter term 2019/20:
  - “Research Designs and Case Studies in Comparative Political Economy” (Christine Trampusch)

- Examples from Summer term 2019
  - “Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA)” (Ingo Rohlfing)
  - “Analyzing EU Politics with Big Data” (Sven-Oliver Proksch)
  - “Causal Inference and Public Policy in Europe” (Bruno Silva)
### Supplementary Section (24 LP)

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<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>required language skills</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Design &amp; Behavior</td>
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<td>Markets &amp; Institutions</td>
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<td>Macroeconomics, Money and Financial Markets</td>
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<td>Statistics &amp; Econometrics</td>
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<td>Interdisciplinary Social Sciences</td>
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<td>Studies Abroad II</td>
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Each group: 24 credits

Each group: 12 credits

*) a number of elective modules within these groups are also available in English.

Note: Courses in the supplementary section are offered by other areas/faculties and may change. The overview is for information only. Details are available from the respective area.

Bilateral agreement with Faculty of Humanities and Arts
Master Thesis

- Registration possible once 60 ECTS credits earned (third or fourth semester)
- Six months starting from registration, 24 ECTS credits
- Approx. 60 pages
- Choose one of the six full professors as examiner
- Check guidelines (e.g. CCCP Master Thesis Guidelines on the CCCP homepage)
- Presentation in political science colloquium mandatory (CCCP Research Seminar, Colloquium Political Theory, Colloquium International Relations).
Course registration (KLIPS2)

• IMPORTANT: Registration for a course and registration for an exam are two separate processes.
• Course registration through KLIPS2 is ultimately governed by course instructors. Get in touch with them or the institute manager in case of questions or problems.
• Module exam registration is subject to stricter rules and administrated by the examination office (=no flexibility!). Familiarize yourself with the rules BEFORE registration.
• The WiSo faculty has its own KLIPS2 support: WiSo Faculty → Studies → Organizing Your Studies → Everything about KLIPS 2.0: courses and exam management
Service

WiSo-Career-Service
• Advice, Coaching, Soft-Skills-Training
• Next talk by Political Science graduates, organized jointly with the Institute of Political Science: **Tuesday, 28 January 2020, 17:45 h.**

WiSo-IT-Service, Regional Computing Center
• Courses, hard- and software
University departments
• E.g. language classes
• Extra-curricular courses (transcript)
Exchange Programmes

- Study Abroad Programme partner universities: Sabanci Univ. Istanbul; Sciences Po Paris; Univ. College Dublin; Univ. of Copenhagen; Charles Univ. Prague; Univ. of Nottingham; Universidad Autónoma de Madrid; and others...
- „Simplified“ credit transfer via the modules „Studies Abroad“ (Supplementary Section, 12 or 24 ECTS) and „Special Aspects of Political Science“ (Core Section, 6 ECTS)
- „Normal“ credit transfer for individual modules 1:1
- Center for International Relations of the WiSo-Faculty (ZIB-WiSo), International Office of the University
- „Study Abroad Exchange Fair“ for Students of Political Science on Tuesday, 22 October 2019, 16-17:30 h
Thank you for your attention!

Q & A
• Academic background in history, political theory, and empirical political science

• Research and teaching interests:
  1. Relationship between political elites, parties and public opinion; implications for function of elections in democracies
     ○ E.g., projects on (i) how issues emphasized by parties relate to public opinion; (ii) media effects on the economic vote
  2. Relationship between economic interests & political outcomes
     ○ E.g. projects on (i) relationship between industrialization and democratization in Britain; (ii) the relationship between trade unions and political parties.
Modules offered

- **Winter Term 2019/20:**
  - **Political Choice and Strategy**
    - Introduce students to use of rational choice theory to study politics
    - Learn to solve and interpret simple mathematical models
    - Engage with debates on the use of rational choice models in political science
  - **Parties and Elections in Comparative Perspective**
    - Study party competition, voting behaviour and elections in diverse contexts
    - Topics covered: origins of party systems and party system change; electoral authoritarianism; theories of voting behaviour and party competition; campaign effects and political persuasion

- **Summer Term 2020:**
  - **Democratic Theory and Practice**
    - What does “democracy” mean? How has democracy been implemented in practice, and with what consequences?
    - Topics covered: (1) theories of democracy; (2) measuring democracy; (3) effects of democracy; (4) challenges to democracy