

**Englischsprachige Seminare am Institut für Politikwissenschaft
(IPW)**

- Courses in English -

Wintersemester 2019/2020

The Nationalist Backlash in Europe

Seminar (6 ECTS), Hoppe, Marcs

Monday, 14:00 - 16:00, 21.10.2019 - 01.02.2020 – room 019

Nationalism has shaped the history of Europe since the French Revolution, arguably earlier. As an ideology and movement it comes in various disguises. What we are experiencing since the 1990s might be termed a “nationalist backlash”. Nationalism has never been dead in Europe, but to an extent, the Cold War and the process of European integration had tamed it. Today the evil brothers of nationalism, xenophobia and racism, have returned to the stage of European politics with a vengeance. In the shape of right-wing populist and fascist movements/ parties they have come out in the open in most European states, often dominating public and social media discourses and celebrating electoral victories. Conquering the middle ground of politics and society, they pose a virulent threat to European democracies. In this seminar, we want to take a closer look at the phenomenon of nationalism, and its various European types and forms. We will put a special focus on the upsurge of right wing populism, the respective political parties and the reasons for their success in various countries. Methodologically, we will develop research designs: narrowing the topic down to a workable size; finding a suitable and manageable research question; developing a coherent scientific approach, and sticking to it. The course will be taught in English.

Becoming Experts: the role and relevance of knowledge in international organizations

Seminar (6 ECTS), Dalmer, Natalia

Tuesday, 12:00 - 14:00, 22.10.2019 - 01.02.2020 – room V405

The fact that international organizations owe much of their legitimacy and influence in world politics to their expertise has been well-established in International Relations. However, the work of IOs has become more challenging over the past decades. This is mainly due to more complex organizational realities and multi-faceted policy issues that demand comprehensive and dynamic approaches. Against this background, questions surrounding the use of knowledge within and between IOs become more relevant and - at the same time - we know only little about how IOs create, widen and maintain their knowledge. In this seminar, we will, therefore, look at the role and relevance of knowledge in international relations and aim at understanding IO-strategies to widen their expertise. This seminar will be taught in English. The number of participants is limited to 30.

Reelecting "Greatness"? The Trump Presidency and the Democratic Challenge

Seminar (6 ECTS), Lemke, Christiane / Wiedekind, Jakob

Wednesday, 10:00 - 12:00, 23.10.2019 - 01.02.2020 – room 015

With the presidential elections in November 2020 around the corner, this Seminar critically reviews the Trump presidency and assesses his electoral success in 2016 against the backdrop of deep societal divides that continue to test the American political system as a whole. This reflection focuses centrally on Trump's confrontative foreign policy agenda including the implications that arise from his potential reelection. In order to do so, this Seminar develops a deeper understanding of the complex American checks-and-balances system. Therein, the President has to work together with Congress and these interbranch relations, in fact, often work to constrain the President's scope of action in foreign policy – arguably even more so since the Democrats took the House of Representatives in the midterm elections in November 2018. This focus on domestic determinants of foreign policy outcomes is motivated by Robert Putnam's logic of two-level games while reflecting upon societal divides that are turned into policy outcomes is clearly informed by Andrew Moravcsik's theory of Liberalism. In the last step, we analyze the prospect of democratic challengers that have already begun to compete for the democratic nomination aiming to oust President Trump highlighting the changing nature of campaigning in the U.S. Voraussetzungen: Completed B.A. degree; excellent grasp of the English language; Extensive IR background in previous studies.