M.A. Political Science

Presentation of the new module area "Political Science Methods"

10.07.2018

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M.A. Political Science

Three research projects (27 credits)
Colloquium (9 credits)

Master's Thesis
(24 credits)

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(24 credits)

Specialisation Section
(36 credits)

Supplementary Section
(24 credits)

Modules from other areas/ faculties; studies abroad (2x12 or 1x24 credits)

Core Section (36 credits)

Total 120 credits = 4 semesters regular period of study

Core Section 1: Three lectures/seminars (18 credits)
Core Section 2: Two advanced seminars (18 credits)

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M.A. Political Science: Module areas

Comparative Analysis of Political Institutions	**Comparative Political Economy**
Political Theory and History of Ideas	**International Relations**
European and Multilevel Politics	**NEW: Political Science Methods**

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Programme overview M.A. Political Science

	I – Comparative Analysis of Political Institutions	II – Comparative Political Economy	III – Political Theory and History of Ideas	IV – International Relations	V – European and Multilevel Politics	VI – Political Science Methods
Core and Advanced Section (36 credits)						
Core Modules (18 credits) chose 3 out of 6	*Lecture Comparative Political Institutions*	*Lecture Comparative Political Economy*	*Lecture Genealogie der Erfahrung*	*Seminar Internationale Beziehungen*	*Lecture Comparing European Democracies*	*Seminar Research Logic & Design*
	6 credits 🇬🇧	6 credits 🇬🇧	6 credits 🇩🇪🇬🇧	6 credits 🇬🇧🇩🇪	6 credits 🇬🇧	6 credits 🇬🇧
Core Module Seminars (18 credits) chose 2 out of 6	*Comparative Political Institutions*	*Comparative Political Economy*	*Political Theory and History of Ideas*	*International Relations*	*European Politics*	*Introduction to Quantitative Methods*
	9 credits 🇬🇧	9 credits 🇬🇧	9 credits 🇩🇪🇬🇧	9 credits 🇩🇪🇬🇧	9 credits 🇬🇧	9 credits 🇬🇧
Specialisation Section (36 credits)						
Research projects (27 credits) chose 3 out of 6	*Comparative Political Institutions*	*Comparative Political Economy*	*Political Theory and History of Ideas*	*International Relations*	*European Politics*	*Introduction to Qualitative Methods*
	9 credits 🇬🇧	9 credits 🇬🇧	9 credits 🇩🇪🇬🇧	9 credits 🇩🇪🇬🇧	9 credits 🇬🇧	9 credits 🇬🇧
Colloquium (9 credits)	Obligatory module: presentation of M.A. thesis					🇩🇪🇬🇧
Supplementary Section (24 credits)						
Master's thesis (24 credits)						
Total: 120 credits						

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M.A. Political Science:
New module area „Political Science Methods"

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)

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Core Module Political Science Methods (module manager: Prof. Kaiser)

"Research Design"

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**

Core Module Seminar Political Science Methods (module manager: Prof. Proksch)

"Introduction to Quantitative methods"

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

Content:

- **Statistical programming language R**

- **Sampling and statistical inference**

- **Estimation and interpretation of the linear regression model**

- **Introduction to quantitative analysis of texts**

- **Automated data collection and visualisation**

- **Seminal quantitative studies in political science.**

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Specialisation Module Political Science Methods (module manager: Prof. Rohlfing)

<u>**"Introduction to Qualitative methods"**</u>

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**

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Substantive modules with methods training

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 2018/19:**

  - **"Research Designs and Case Studies in Comparative Political Economy"** (seminar dealing with research designs, strategies of case selection, within-case and cross-case methods, conceptions of causality, and best practice studies in comparative political economy; students present their own research designs) **(Tue, 4:00-5:30pm, Christine Trampusch)**

- **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)**

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Thank you for your attention!
Q & A

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