

Summer Term 2017
University of Cologne
Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences
Cologne Center for Comparative Politics (CCCP)
Chair of International Comparative Political Economy and Economic Sociology
Liaison Chair to the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies
Master Course: Comparative Political Economy: Theories and Methods
ECTS: 6
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Time: Tuesday, 4.00-5.30pm
Room: Hörsaal 2 (Lecture Room 2), Gottfried-Keller-Str. 6

Description: This lecture deepens students' knowledge in theories and methods of comparative political economy. It discusses analytical approaches and methods used in the comparative analysis of capitalism, with a special focus on the relationship between states and markets (or political and economic power) in the governance of labor and financial markets. We discuss classical authors of Comparative Political Economy (CPE) such as Smith, Marx or Schumpeter and newer concepts of labor and business power. Moreover, the lecture enlarges students' knowledge in the most important challenges political economies of today are confronted with such as finance capital, financialization, public debt, skills and knowledge society, migration, and digital capitalism. The lecture also intensively discusses the way quantitative as well as qualitative methods are applied in empirical studies to test hypotheses or to generate and refine existing theories. The course confronts the strengths and weaknesses of different analytical and theoretical frameworks with each other.

Prerequisites: A good knowledge of basic concepts and methods (quantitative as well as qualitative) of political science is required. Students should be able to understand academic papers written in English language. Classroom language will be English. The written exam at the end of the course will be in English language.

Registration: Registration takes place via KLIPS. I strongly recommend registration as this ensures that you may get information about ad hoc changes in the schedule.

Obligatory reading: All obligatory readings are made available on the ILIAS-website of the course. The written exam refers to the lecture as well as to the texts of the syllabus.

18.04.	1. Introduction
25.04.	2. From Smith to Marx: The godfathers of classical CPE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smith, A. (1996)[1776]: <i>An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations</i>. Book 1. Ch. 1-3. Chicago: Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc., 3-15. Marx, K. (1996)[1867]: <i>Capital</i>. Part 8. Ch. 26-32. Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc., 354-378.
02.05.	3. Labor & Capitalism I: Labor Power <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Korpi, W. (1985): Power Resources Approach vs Action and Conflict: On Causal and Intentional Explanations in the Study of Power. <i>Sociological Theory</i>, 3(2), 31-45. Korpi, W. /J. Palme (2003): New Politics and Class Politics in the Context of Austerity and Globalization: Welfare State Regress in 18 Countries, 1975–95. <i>American Political Science Review</i>, 97(3), 425-446. Offe, C./H. Wiesenthal (1980): Two Logics of Collective Action: Theoretical Notes on Social Class and Organizational Form. <i>Political Power and Social Theory</i>, 1(1), 71-87.
09.05.	4. Labor & Capitalism II: The Labor Market & Trade Unions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kerr, C. (1954): Balkanization of Labor Markets. In: Bakke, E. W. (ed.): <i>Labor Mobility and Economic Opportunity</i>. Cambridge: MIT Press, 92-110. Streeck, Wolfgang (2005): The Sociology of Labor Markets and Trade Unions. In: Smelser, Neil J./R. Swedberg (eds.): <i>The Handbook of Economic Sociology</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 254-283. Davidsson, J. B./P. Emmenegger (2013): Defending the Organisation, not the Members: Unions and the Reform of Job Security Legislation in Western Europe. <i>European Journal of Political Research</i>, 52(3), 339-363.
16.05.	5. Business & Capitalism I: Business Power <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dahl, R. A. (1959): Business and Politics: A Critical Appraisal of Political Science. <i>American Political Science Review</i>, 53(1), 1-34. Lindblom, C. E. (1982): The Market as Prison. <i>The Journal of Politics</i>, 44(2), 323-36. Block, F. (1977): The Ruling Class does not Rule: Notes on the Marxist Theory of the State. <i>Socialist Revolution</i>, 33(6), 6-28. Bell, S./A. Hindmoor (2014): The Structural Power of Business and the Power of Ideas: The Strange Case of the Australian Mining Tax. <i>New Political Economy</i>, 19(3), 470-86.
23.05.	6. Business & Capitalism II: The Financial Market & Finance Capital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Krippner, G. R. (2005): The Financialization of the American Economy. <i>Socio-Economic Review</i>, 3(2), 173-208. Culpepper, P. D./R. Reinke (2014): Structural Power and Bank Bailouts in the United Kingdom and the United States. <i>Politics & Society</i>, 42(4), 427-454. Helleiner, E. (1995): Explaining the Globalization of Financial Markets: Bringing States Back in. <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>, 2(2), 315-341. Rixen, T. (2013): Why Reregulation after the Crisis is Feeble: Offshore Financial Centers, Shadow Banking and Jurisdictional Competition. <i>Regulation & Governance</i> 7(4): 435-459.
30.05.	“Der Banker – Master of the Universe” – Documentary (in German language)
06.06	<u>No Class! Pentecost Break!</u>
13.06.	7. Private Debt, Public Debt (Management) and Crisis in the Eurozone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schumpeter, J. A. (1991) [1918]: The Crisis of the Tax State. In: Richard Swedberg (ed.): <i>The Economics and Sociology of Capitalism</i>. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 99–140. Fastenrath, F. /M. Schwan/C. Trampusch (2017). Where States and Markets meet: The Financialisation of Sovereign Debt Management. <i>New Political Economy</i>; ahead of; http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/4QjPbRkIh9XEszC2icRD/full Frieden, J./Walter, S. (2017): Understanding the Political Economy of the Eurozone Crisis: A Political Scientist’s Guide. In: <i>American Review of Political Science</i>. Volume 20; forthcoming. Armingeon, K./K. Guthmann (2014): Democracy in Crisis? The Declining Support for National Democracy in European Countries, 2007–2011. <i>European Journal of Political Research</i>, 53(3), 423-442. Gabor, D. (2016). The (Impossible) Repo Trinity: The Political Economy of Repo Markets. <i>Review of International Political Economy</i> 23(6): 967-1000.

20.06.	<p>8. Skills & Capitalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Han, K. J., & Castater, E. G. (2016). They may not have the Skills, but they have the Desire: Why the Skill Composition of Trade Unions Matters for Wage Inequality. <i>Research in Social Stratification and Mobility</i>, 45, 1-12. • Busemeyer, M.R./C. Trampusch (2017): The Politics of Vocational Training: Theories, Typologies, and Public Policies. In: Guile, David/Unwin, Lorna (eds.): Handbook on Vocational Education and Training; forthcoming. • Streeck, W. (2012): Skills and Politics: General and Specific. In: Busemeyer, M./C. Trampusch (eds.): <i>The Political Economy of Collective Skill Formation</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 317-352. • Trampusch, C. (2010): Co-evolution of Skills and Welfare in Coordinated Market Economies? A Comparative Historical Analysis of Denmark, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. <i>European Journal of Industrial Relations</i>, 16(3), 197-220.
27.06.	<p>9. Migration & Capitalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freeman, G. P./A. K. Kessler (2008): Political Economy and Migration Policy. <i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i>, 34(4), 655-678. • Piore, M. (1979): <i>Birds of Passage. Migrant Labor and Industrial Societies</i>. Ch. 1 and 2. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1-49. • Wright, C. F. (2015): Why do States Adopt Liberal Immigration Policies? The Policymaking Dynamics of skilled Visa Reform in Australia. <i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i>, 41(2), 306-328. • Koopmans, R. (2010): Trade-Offs Between Equality and Difference: Immigrant Integration, Multiculturalism and the Welfare State in Cross-National Perspective. <i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i>, 36(1), 1-26.
04.07.	<p>BBC (2014): The Truth About Immigration in the UK 2014. BBC Documentary</p>
11.07.	<p>10. Digital Capitalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autor, D. H./D. Dorn (2013): How Technology Wrecks the Middle Class. <i>The New York Times</i>, 24, 24 August 2013. • Huws, U. (2014): <i>Labor in the Global Digital Economy</i>, Ch. 1 & 2. New York: Monthly Review Press, 27-60. • The Economist (2017): They don't make 'em like that ny more. January 14th 2017, 17-20. • The Economist (2017): Advanced Manufacturing. The New Manufacturing Footprint. January 14th 2017, 57. • The Economist (2017): Special Report. Lifelong Education. The Role of Employers. Cognition Switch. January 14th 2017, 7-9. • Blix, Mårten (2017): <i>Digitalization, Immigration and the Welfare State</i>. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing. Ch. 1 "A Perfect Storm", 1-15; Ch. 4 "Digitalization Changing the Economy and the Labor Market," 66-87; Ch.6 "Immigration, Inequality and Skills in the Digital Economy," 114-147. • Loebbecke, C./A. Picot (2015): Reflections on Societal and Business Model Transformation Arising from Digitization and Big Data Analytics: A Research Agenda. <i>The Journal of Strategic Information Systems</i>, 24(3), 149-157.
18.07.	<p>Conclusion & Preparation of Exam</p>
25.07.	<p>Exam</p>