

Winter term 2017/2018

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

Seminar Vergleichende Politische Ökonomie:

Public Policy Analysis: Energy, Climate and the Environment

ECTS points: 4 (alte Prüfungsordnung) / 6 (neue Prüfungsordnung)

When: Tuesdays, 12:00 – 13:30

Room: Bauwens Gebäude (210), seminar room 2.B.11

Lecturer: Dennis Abel

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Tel.: 0221 / 470-7446

Office hours: By appointment only

Course summary

This course aims to provide students with an introduction on public policy analysis on the basis of energy, climate and environmental policy.

In the first part of the course, we will discuss general approaches and concepts of public policy analysis. The students will investigate the single components of policies and the major steps in the policy cycle. In addition, different theoretical approaches for the explanation of policy change will be elaborated. Finally, we will debate forms of governance and the concept of policy convergence.

In the second part of the course, we will apply these approaches on the analysis of energy, climate and environmental policy. The protection of the population against environmental hazards and the mitigation of climate change have emerged as a core task of government policy. We will investigate the decision-making process in crucial environmental subfields such as climate change mitigation, adaptation and renewable energy policy. The participants will prepare and present case studies on selected policy-making processes within these subfields.

The course will be based on discussion sessions, small in-class group projects and short presentations by the students.

Registration

Students have to register via KLIPS2.

Deadline for the exam registration: **29.10.2017**.

Course requirements and examination

All participants are expected to:

- attend the seminar on a regular basis
- self-study the obligatory readings according to schedule and prepare reading reports
- actively contribute to class discussions
- give a 10 to 15 minutes presentation in the seminar

The examination consists of three parts:

1. A short presentation (10-15 minutes) followed by a discussion session.

The presentation will be graded as either “pass” or “fail”.

2. A written term paper. Depending on the “Prüfungsordnung”, participants are expected to write

- 2500 words (alte Prüfungsordnung - 4 ECTS) /
- 3500 words (neue Prüfungsordnung - 6 ECTS).

Participants must “pass” the presentation as well as the term paper in order to successfully finish the course.

The written examination accounts for 100% of the final grade. The term paper will be graded on the basis of the assessment criteria for term papers as published on our web page (http://www.cccp.uni-koeln.de/sites/cccp/Lehre/Assessment_criteria_for_research_papers_and_final_thesis.pdf). Points given for the term paper will be converted to the final grade as follows:

Points	Grade
100-95	1,0
94-90	1,3
89-85	1,7
84-80	2,0
79-75	2,3
74-70	2,7
69-65	3,0
64-60	3,3
59-55	3,7
54-50	4,0
49-0	5,0

3. Bonus work: For most sessions the participants are asked to prepare short reading reports on a few basic questions related to the literature (max. 200 words). The deadline for submission of these reports is Monday midday before the upcoming session. A student receives one bonus point for each reading report. A maximum of five bonus points can be added to the final grade.

The term paper has to be handed in as electronic version via email to abel@wiso.uni-koeln.de. The print version should be handed in personally at the administration office of the Cologne Center for Comparative Politics (IBW Gebäude, Herbert-Lewin-Str. 2, 1st floor, Room 1.09).

Deadline for submitting the term paper: **16.02.2018, 18:00.**

Students should consult the information on writing a term paper and plagiarism on our web page:

http://www.cccp.uni-koeln.de/sites/cccp/Lehre/Information_on_how_to_write_a_term_paper_or_thesis.pdf

The term paper must include the following signed statement:

<http://www.cccp.uni-koeln.de/sites/cccp/Lehre/EidesstattlicheErklaerung.pdf>

We would like to point out that term papers submitted in this context will be checked anonymously for plagiarism with the software Turnitin.

Literature

Participants are advised to buy a copy of: Knill, C., & Tosun, J. (2012). *Public Policy. A New Introduction*. London – New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Schedule

Introduction

1. (10.10.2017) Introduction to the course programme

Introduction of the course. Administrative matters. Assignment of presentation topics.

2. (17.10.2017) What is Public Policy? What is Environmental Policy?

Key aspects: What are policies (components, dimensions and typologies), brief introduction on policy process, governance principles, policy styles, actors, multi-level problems

Obligatory reading:

Knill, C., & Tosun, J. (2012). *Public Policy. A New Introduction*. London – New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 1-39.

Concepts and approaches in public policy analysis

3. (24.10.2017) Theoretical approaches to policy-making: Structure, institutions and interests

Key aspects: socioeconomic school, cleavage approach, new institutionalism, interest based – rational choice.

Obligatory reading:

Knill, C., & Tosun, J. (2012). *Public Policy. A New Introduction*. London – New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 69-96.

4. (7.11.2017) The policy cycle

Group presentations of the main stages of the policy cycle: 1. Problem definition and agenda setting, 2. Decision-making, 3. Implementation and 4. Evaluation. Students are expected to research examples from environmental policy to illustrate the stages in policy-making.

Obligatory reading:

Each group prepares one chapter. Agenda setting ch. 5, decision-making ch. 6, implementation ch. 7, evaluation ch. 8 from Knill, Tosun (2012).

5. (14.11.2017) Governance

Key aspects: Modes of governance (hierarchy, markets, networks), typologies (varieties of capitalism, developmental / regulatory / green entrepreneurial state), what is “good” governance?

Obligatory reading:

Knill, C., & Tosun, J. (2012). *Public Policy. A New Introduction*. London – New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 199-221.

6. (21.11.2017) Policy change and policy convergence

Key aspects: dimensions of policy change (density and intensity), rent-seeking, regulatory capture, explanatory approaches: advocacy coalition framework, learning, punctuated

equilibriums, path-dependency, veto points, multiple stream approach, types and causes of convergence, related concepts (transfer, diffusion, isomorphism).

Obligatory reading:

Knill, C., & Tosun, J. (2012). *Public Policy. A New Introduction*. London – New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 250-279.

Environmental policy-making

7. (28.11.2017) The environment as a policy problem

Key aspects: Introduction into core characteristics of environmental problems, from traditional approaches to the concept of sustainable development, mapping actor landscape.

Obligatory reading:

Carter, N. (2007). *The Politics of the Environment*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 173-206.

8. (05.12.2017) Environmental policy and instrument choice

Key aspects: Introduction into regulatory styles and environmental policy instruments (command-and-control, market-based, voluntary agreements etc.).

Obligatory reading:

Carter, N. (2007). *The Politics of the Environment*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 321-352.

Climate policy – mitigation and adaptation

9. (12.12.2017) Climate change mitigation – Carbon pricing and trading

Key aspects: understanding characteristics of emissions trading as a policy instrument, historical development in US and EU, policy-making process in Kyoto Protocol and EU level.

Case study: The EU Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS)

Obligatory reading: tba

10. (19.12.2017) Climate change adaptation – Emergence of a new policy field

Key aspects: Understanding the emergence of a new policy field, integration of risk analysis in environmental policy-making (global warming and extreme weather events), focus on agenda-setting as first step in policy-making.

Case studies: German Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change 2008, Dutch National Programme for Spatial Adaptation to Climate Change 2007 and the Delta Programme 2015, EU Adaptation Strategy 2013, California Climate Adaptation Strategy 2009

Obligatory readings: tba

- Christmas holidays –

Governing the Energy transition

11. (9.1.2018) Renewable energy and technological innovation

Key aspects: green industrial policy, policy instruments, price- and quantity-based approaches for RES-E support, rent-seeking and rent-management, identifying winners and losers.

Case study: The German Renewable Feed-In Act (EEG)

Obligatory readings (select one):

Mazzucato, M. (2015). The Green Entrepreneurial State. In I. Scoones, P. Newell & M. Leach (Eds.), *The Politics of Green Transformations* (pp. 134-152). Oxon – New York: Routledge.

Pegels, A., & Becker, B. (2014). Implementing green industrial policy. In A. Pegels (Ed.), *Green Industrial Policy in Emerging Countries* (pp. 38-68). Oxon – New York: Routledge.

Lockwood, M. (2015). The Political Dynamics of Green Transformations. In I. Scoones, P. Newell & M. Leach (Eds.), *The Politics of Green Transformations* (pp. 86-101). Oxon – New York: Routledge.

12. (16.1.2018) Transport and mobility

Key aspects: Green industrial policy, business power, rent-seeking and rent-management, identifying winners and losers, interplay between industrial, energy and agricultural policy.

Cases: German subsidies for electric cars (Umweltbonus 2016), EU biofuel subsidies

Obligatory reading:

Newell, P. (2015). The Politics of Green Transformations in Capitalism. In I. Scoones, P. Newell & M. Leach (Eds.), *The Politics of Green Transformations* (pp. 68-85). Oxon – New York: Routledge.

International macro-comparative perspectives

13. (23.1.2018) Environmental policy leaders and laggards

Key aspects: Conceptualisation of policy leaders and laggards, how to measure leadership, policy portfolios.

Obligatory reading:

Liefferink, D. et al. (2009). Leaders and laggards in environmental policy: a quantitative analysis of domestic policy output. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 16(5), 677-700.

14. (30.1.2018) Environmental policy convergence

Key aspects: Measuring policy convergence, causes of convergence in environmental policy, policy portfolios.

Obligatory reading:

Holzinger, K., Knill, C., & Sommerer, T. (2014). Is there convergence of national environmental policies? An analysis of policy outputs in 24 OECD countries. In H. Jörgens, A. Lenschow & D. Liefferink (Eds.), *Understanding Environmental Policy Convergence* (pp. 39-63). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.