

Comparative Public Administration and Public Policy in Europe and Beyond

Seminar course EnglL within the master program in Public Management and Policy and open to students from other programs at the University of Bern

(Version of 10th Feb. 2020)

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Rudolf Blankart, Prof. Dr. Claus Jacobs, Dr. Dana Landau, Prof. Dr. Doina Radulescu, Prof. Dr. Isabelle Stadelmann-Steffen, Dr. Stefan Schlegel, Dr. Kristina S. Weissmüller, & Guest Speaker

Seminar co-ordination: Prof. Dr. Adrian Ritz & Dr. Kristina S. Weissmüller, KPM Center for Public Management, University of Bern

Content:

Nation states around the globe differ regarding their principles of organizing economic welfare, their societal culture, their political and legal systems etc. At the same time, nation states are competitors for human capital, firms, and good tax payers. Their means to attract these success factors are policies related to economics, labor, and tax regulation, welfare, education, and the healthcare system, as well as the provision of high quality of life. Politico-administrative systems are one decisive factor of policy impact, welfare, and societal well-being. Public agencies, task structures, identity of public employees, as well as networks between society, economy, and the public sector are the results of long-term developments that manifest in established administrative rules and cultures forming the most important pillars of more or less stable nation states. Therefore, it is of high interest to analyze governance structures and politico-administrative systems from a comparative perspective in order to gain insights into how context shapes such systems and its impact.

In this seminar, students will learn about institutions for public service provision in Europe and selected countries worldwide, their relationship to societal and cultural context, and their effects on a variety of outcomes.

In the first part of the seminar, students learn the essentials of comparative studies in order to know how to reflect upon various comparative cases in the following classes.

In the second part, participants discuss differences in structure of government, legal systems, administrative culture, and public personnel policies. The lecturers presenting and explaining these core topics will introduce each session from a comparative perspective. Students contribute by discussing comparative research on a specific topic (e.g. Continental-European "Rechtsstaat" culture versus Anglo-Saxon public interest culture).

In the third part of the seminar, we will focus on specific policy fields and learn from experts in the field about institutional differences and policy outcomes from a comparative perspective (e.g. healthcare systems in Europe).

In the last part of the course, students are grouped so that participants from abroad are working together with Swiss students and prepare comparisons of either politico-administrative structures or policy subsystems. The group work features peculiarities of foreign students' home countries and Switzerland.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, students...

1. ... will understand how history, politics, and the societal and cultural context shape politico-administrative systems,
2. ... are able to distinguish clusters of politico-administrative systems according to their specific characteristics,
3. ... can argue about institutional differences and their effects on the stability, the welfare, and the policy impact of nation states, and
4. ... are able to evaluate the politico-administrative system, its context and impact of their home country in comparison to the Swiss case.

Overview of the course:

1 st session (2hrs):	Introduction to comparative analysis in Public Administration
2 nd session (2hrs):	Administrative culture and public personnel policies from a comparative perspective
3 rd session (2hrs):	Rules, publicness, and corruption compared
4 th session (2hrs):	Welfare policies – the political scientists' view
5 th session (2hrs):	Peace and Security policies from a comparative perspective
6 th session (2hrs):	<i>Guest Speaker</i>
7 th session (2hrs):	Healthcare systems from a comparative perspective
8 th session (2hrs):	Welfare states and social security systems – the economists' view
9 th session (2hrs):	<i>SPRING BREAK (no seminar lecture)</i>
10 th session (2hrs):	Constitutions compared
11 th session (2hrs):	Student presentations
12 th session (2hrs):	Student presentations
13 th session (2hrs):	Student presentations and final session
14 th session (2hrs):	<i>PUBLIC HOLIDAY (no seminar lecture)</i>

Organization of the Course:

The seminar will take place weekly (20th February 2020 - 21st May 2020) in spring semester 2020 on Thursday, 10-12h in room A 201, UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern.

Examination for 6 ECTS:

This course awards 6 ECTS. In order to pass this course and receive the ECTS, participants need to meet the following three requirements:

- First, they need to prepare and *present a comparisons* of their home countries' politico-administrative structures or policy subsystems with the Swiss system as *group work* together with other students.
- Second, they need to hand in a *written seminar theses* (5-7 pages excluding front and back matter, references, appendices) about the topic they chose for presentation at the end of the semester.
- Third, they are encouraged to *attend* regularly and actively.

Course schedule FS 2020:

Date	Topic & Lecturer	Course Contents and Literature
20.02.2020, 12-14h	<i>Introduction Comparative Analysis in Public Administration</i> Claus Jacobs Kristina S. Weissmüller	<p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Welcome and Introduction – Theory and practice of comparison – Essentials of comparative public administration – Course mechanics <p>Required reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Jreisat, J. E. (2016). Comparative public administration and globalization. In: <i>Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance</i>, 1-12. <p>Further reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Jreisat, J. E. (2006). Preface: The Field of Comparative Administration through the Years. In: <i>Comparative Public Administration</i> (pp. xxvii-xxxiv). Emerald Group Publishing Limited. – Otenyo, E. E., & Lind, N. S. (2006). Part I: Comparative Public Administration: Growth, Method, and Ecology. In: <i>Comparative Public Administration</i> (pp. 1-7). Emerald Group Publishing Limited.
27.02.2020, 12-14h	<i>Administrative culture and public personnel policies from a comparative perspective</i> Kristina S. Weissmüller	<p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Administrative tradition and types (structure of government, administrative culture, personnel systems) – Core elements of public personnel systems – Variety of public personnel systems – Changes over time of public personnel systems <p>Required reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Kuhlmann, S., & Wollmann, H. (2015). <i>Introduction to Comparative Public Administration</i>. Cheltenham UK: Edward Elgar. Chapter 4.5.4 (pp. 239-253). <p>Further reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pollitt, C., & Bouckaert, G. (2017). <i>Public Management Reform. A Comparative Analysis</i>. 4 Ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Chapters 3 & 4.5) – Kuhlmann, S., Veit, S., & Bogumil, J. (2015). 'Public Service Systems at Subnational and Local Levels of Government: A British-German-French Comparison'. In: <i>Comparative Civil Service Systems in the 21st Century</i>, ed. by Van der Meer, F., et al., Houndsmills: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 162-184
05.03.2020, 12-14h	<i>Rules, publicness & corruption compared</i> Kristina S. Weissmüller	<p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Bribing, coping, rule-breaking – the role of discretion from a comparative perspective – What is "public" in public administration & management? – Rules and Rule-breaking across administrative traditions <p>Required reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pesch, U. (2008). <i>The publicness of public administration. Administration & Society</i>, 40(2): 170-193. <p>Further reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Perry, J. L., & Rainey, H. G. (1988). The public-private distinction in organizational theory: A critique and research strategy. <i>The Academy of Management Review</i>, 13(2): 182-201.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Jilke, S., & Tummers, L. (2018). Which clients are deserving of help? A theoretical model and experimental test. <i>Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory</i>, 28(2): 226-238. – Simon, H. (1945). <i>Administrative Behavior. A study of decision-making processes in administrative organizations</i>. New York: The Free Press; Chapter IV: Rationality in Administrative Behavior (pp. 61-78).
12.03.2020, 12-14h	<p><i>Welfare policies – the political scientists' view</i></p> <p>Isabelle Stadelmann-Steffen</p>	<p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism – Why and how welfare states have developed – The politics of restructuring welfare states <p>Required reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Esping-Andersen, G. (1990): <i>The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism</i>. Princeton University Press. Chapter 1 <p>Further reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Bonoli, G. (2005). The politics of the new social policies: providing coverage against new social risks in mature welfare states. <i>Policy & Politics</i>, 33(3): 431-449. – Pierson, P. (1996): The New Politics of the Welfare State, <i>World Politics</i>, 48(2), pp. 143-179
19.03.2020, 12-14h	<p><i>Peace and Security policies from a comparative perspective</i></p> <p>Dana Landau</p>	<p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Introduction to basic concepts in peace, security, and foreign policy – Security policy, alliance politics, balance of power – Peacebuilding and peacekeeping – Theories to help explain peace and security policies (constructivist, realist, liberal, critical) – Empirical examples and developments since the Cold War <p>Literature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hyde-Price, A. (2004). European Security, Strategic Culture, and the Use of Force, <i>European Security</i>, 13(4), 323-343 – Beyer, J. L. & Hoffmann, S. (2011). Varieties of neutrality: Norm revision and decline, <i>Cooperation and Conflict</i>, 46(3), 285-311 – Goetschel, L. (2013) Introduction to Special Issue: Bound to be peaceful? The changing approach of Western European small states to peace, <i>Swiss Political Science Review</i>, 19(3), 259-278 (optional: any of the country cases in this special issue) – Francis, D. J. (2006) Linking Peace, Security and Developmental Regionalism: Regional Economic and Security Integration in Africa, <i>Journal of Peacebuilding & Development</i>, 2(3), 7-20
26.03.2020, 12-14h	<p><i>Healthcare systems from a comparative perspective</i></p> <p>Rudolf Blankart</p>	<p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Characteristics of the good of health and its implications on health care markets – Organization of health systems – International variation in health system performance <p>Literature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – De Pietro, C., Camenzind, P., Sturny, I., Crivelli, L., Edwards-Garavoglia, S., Spranger, A., Wittenbecher, F., Quentin, W. (2015). Switzerland: Health system review. <i>Health Systems in Transition</i>, 17(4):1–288 (free download: http://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf_file/0010/293689/Switzerland-HiT.pdf?ua=1). – <i>Country health System Reviews of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies</i> (free download: http://www.euro.who.int/en/about-

		us/partners/observatory/publications/health-system-reviews-hits/full-list-of-country-hits
02.04.2020, 12-14h	<i>Guest Speaker</i>	<i>tba</i>
09.04.2020, 12-14h	<p><i>Welfare states and social security systems – the economists' view</i></p> <p>Doina Radulescu</p>	<p><i>Contents:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Causes of differences in welfare states in Europe vs. US – Economic, political, historic and behavioral determinants of preferences for redistribution – Empirical evidence – How does social security affect retirement <p><i>Required reading:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Alesina, A., S. Stantcheva, & E. Teso (2018): Intergenerational Mobility and Preferences for Redistribution, <i>American Economic Review</i>, 108(2): 521-554. – Alesina, A., E. Glaeser, & B. Sacerdote (2001): Why Doesn't the US Have a European-Style Welfare State?, <i>HIER Discussion Paper No.</i> 1933. <p><i>Further reading:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Alesina, A., P. Giuliano, A. Bisin, & J. Benhabib (2011): Preferences for Redistribution, <i>Handbook of Social Economics</i>, pp. 93-132, North Holland. – Hindriks J., & Gareth, D. M. (2013). <i>Intermediate Public Economics</i>. Cambridge: The MIT Press. (pp. 775-781; 797-802).
16.04.2020	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	
23.04.2020, 12-14h	<p><i>Law systems from a comparative perspective</i></p> <p>Stefan Schlegel</p>	<p><i>Contents:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Constitutional Law: comparative overview – Parliamentary and Presidential Systems – Separation of Powers and the Role of Judges – State Structure: Unitarism and Federalism – Rule of Law / Rechtsstaat <p><i>Required reading:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hirschl, R. (2013). From comparative constitutional law to comparative constitutional studies. <i>International Journal of Constitutional Law</i>, 11(1): 1-12. <p><i>Further reading:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Haller, W. (2016). <i>The Swiss Constitution in a comparative context</i>. 2 Ed. Zürich & St.Gallen: Dike. (pp. 1-20, 27-36, 117-126) – Heringa, A. W. (2016). <i>Constitutions compared: An Introduction to Comparative Constitutional Law</i>. 4 Ed. Cambridge: Intersentia (Chapters 2.1 & 3.1) – <i>Federal Constitution of the Swiss Confederation</i> of 18 April 1999 (English translation)
30.04.2020, 12-14h	<p><i>Student presentations</i></p> <p>Students and lecturers</p>	.
07.05.2020, 12-14h	<p><i>Student presentations</i></p> <p>Students and lecturers</p>	.
14.05.2020, 12-14h	<p><i>Student presentations and final session</i></p> <p>Students and lecturers</p>	.
21.05.2020	<i>AUFFAHRT (public holiday)</i>	

