

Centre for International Security (GRAD-TC-45):

- Prof. Anita R Gohdes
- Prof. Marina E Henke
- Prof. Julian Wucherpennig

Advisor Information

Office	Professor Marina Henke: Room 1.40 Professor Anita Gohdes: Room 3.12.1 Professor Julian Wucherpennig: Room 2.51
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Assistant	Dayna Sadow (Gohdes) sadow@hertie-school.org Denny Hofbauer (Henke) hofbauer@hertie-school.org Nicole Br��nner (Wucherpennig) bruenner@hertie-school.org
Office Hours	Prof. Anita Gohdes: Tuesday, 10:30 – 12:30h Onsite (room 3.12.1) OR online via MS Teams <i>Please send an email to sadow@hertie-school.org</i> Prof. Marina Henke: Wednesdays 14:30-15:30 Room 1.40 <i>Please send an email to hofbauer@hertie-school.org</i> Prof. Julian Wucherpennig: Thursday, 10-11 a.m. Onsite (room 2.51) OR online via MS Teams <i>Please send an e-mail request 48 hours in advance to:</i> wucherpennig@hertie-school.org AND bruenner@hertie-school.org

Colloquium & Meeting Information

Meeting times	Session 1: 6 November 2020, 12-14 h, online via MS Teams Session 2: 20 November 2020, 12-14 h, online via MS Teams Session 3: 4 December 2020, 12-14 h, online via MS Teams <i>Session 4: tbd (Mid-February/Beginning March 2021)</i> <i>Session 5: tbd (Late March 2021)</i> <i>Session 6: tbd (Beginning/Mid-April 2021)</i>
Venue	Please refer to 'Meeting times' Session 1, 2 and 3 will be virtual meetings taking place entirely online via MS Teams.

Research & Advising Profile

The following describes our joint advising and teaching profile.

- We are happy to supervise all thesis projects that either directly or indirectly relate to our own expertise and research interests.
- We believe that identifying a suitable research question is an important part of writing a thesis, and we will teach you how what a suitable research question looks like, how you can find one, and how you can narrow it down a manageable and meaningful topic. We will not provide a fixed list of questions.
- We strongly support team work! Team work is particularly valuable in any sort of data-driven work. Please indicate whether you are willing to work with a co-author. Note that you do not have to have someone in mind when submitting your proposal.

WE recommend the two following books in preparation for your thesis:

- *Kellstedt, Paul M. and Guy D. Whitten, The Fundamentals of Political Science Research. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013.*
- *Powner, Leanne C., Empirical Research and Writing. A Political Science Student's Practical Guide. Thousand Oaks: QC Press/Sage, 2015.*

General Academic Field:

We are open to a broad range of topics. Typically these fall into the following areas:

- International security
- International relations
- International affairs

Specific Expertise:

Our expertise includes the following:

- Armed conflict (interstate conflict, civil war, etc.)
- Authoritarianism
- Cyber security and conflict
- Defense policy
- Diffusion processes
- Digitalization, social media, and contentious politics
- Diplomacy
- Ethnicity and ethnic conflict
- Foreign Policy Analysis
- Grand strategy
- Human rights
- Military interventions
- Migration (irregular migration, refugees, etc.)
- Nuclear security
- Peace processes
- Peacekeeping

- Political Economy of developing countries
- Political violence
- Security
- Terrorism

Methodology:

- We supervise systematic (positivist) and empirical work. We do not supervise purely normative question (unless these are approached through a non-normative lens). We encourage students to do quantitative work. However, there are many questions that do not lend themselves to quantitative analysis, and we are above all interested in you finding the best research design for your research question, be it quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods. We are happy to supervise work that is related our own expertise that includes an empirical research design and analysis.
- If you work with (quantitative) data in your thesis, you are free to work with R, Stata, or other software of your choosing. We am happy to give you advice on programming languages. Please note that we will not be de-bugging your code.

Supervision Style:

- **Supervision will occur in form of the Colloquium and students can expect each session to look a bit different. Sessions 1-3 will jointly be held by Professors Henke, Gohdes, and Wucherpennig.** This will give you optimal and detailed input from three supervisors.
- **At the end of the Fall Semester 2020, we will determine the first supervisor for your thesis. Given that both research questions, topics, and research design tend to change quite heavily over the first few months of working on them, this process ensures you will be supervised by the professor who most fits your topic and empirical approach.**
- We will provide detailed feedback to shape and refine students' research ideas. In general, however, we will not provide you with any data. We am happy to direct you to data sources that we know of, and suggest ideas for you to obtain new data. But if you decide to gather new data, it will be an integral part of your thesis.
- We am happy to give you detailed feedback on the structure of your thesis. I will, however, not pre-read any text drafts.

Participation & Milestones

- **Written Proposal (including Question, Literature Review, and Research Design)**
- **Presentation of proposal**
- **Discussion of 1-2 proposals of fellow students**

Attendance

Students receive 8 ECTS for the master's thesis colloquium. Attendance for supervision—whether in the form of a colloquium or an individual meeting—is compulsory. Students are expected to be present, prepared, and engaged in each session, and to adhere to deadlines set for assignments.

In case of an excused absence, students must notify their supervisor. Absence must be compensated with an additional assignment.

Students on an academic exchange programme in the Fall Semester should be given the opportunity of supervision via Skype.

Session Overview

Session	Session Date	Session Title
1	06.11.2020	Finding a research question, and researching the appropriate literature – <i>Taught jointly by Gohdes, Henke, and Wucherpfennig</i>
2	20.11.2020	Development of concepts, mechanisms, and hypotheses - <i>Taught jointly by Gohdes, Henke, and Wucherpfennig</i>
3	04.12.2020	Choosing the right research design/methods - <i>Taught jointly by Gohdes, Henke, and Wucherpfennig</i>
4	xx.xx.2021	Progress report – <i>taught individually by each supervisor</i>
5	xx.xx.2021	Individual short meetings - <i>taught individually by each supervisor</i>
6	xx.xx.2021	Open session (tailored towards demand) - <i>taught individually by each supervisor</i>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is an infringement of § 11 Good Academic Conduct, 2a: "*Infringements of the standards of good academic conduct include for instance to use wordings, ideas or other intellectual work of others in an academic work without clearly indicating the author. The obligation to indicate the authorship of others shall apply irrespective of whether or not the sources used are protected by copyright*" (See: Exam Rules, § 11 Good Academic Conduct for more information).

It is vital to keep track of your sources and to cite all material properly.

The Library will offer a session available to all students on resource management and proper citation.

Colloquium Sessions

Session 1: 6 November 2020

Finding a research question, and researching the appropriate literature

Aim	Learn how to find a good research question, and how to go about finding literature.
Assignment	Students are expected to bring ideas for research questions/topics to class. In class, we will apply a number of techniques to help you refine your question. We will also talk about how to go about researching and writing a good literature review.
Readings (if applicable)	None

Session 2: 20 November 2020

Development of concepts, mechanisms, and hypotheses

Aim	
Assignment (e.g. literature review)	
Readings (if applicable)	TBD.

Session 3: 4 December 2020

Choosing the right research design/methods

Aim	Finding the right research design and method for your research question.
Assignment (e.g. empirical findings)	Students are expected to research the types of data sources and cases that would be useful for answering their research question. In class we will discuss important foundations of a good research design.
Readings (if applicable)	TBD.

Session 4: xx.xx.2021

Progress report

Aim	Get feedback on literature, conceptualization, and theoretical argument
Assignment (e.g. first chapter)	One week before the session, students upload an updated proposal (1-2 pages). During the session, each student will give a short presentation highlighting the status quo and current challenges. In preparation for the class, students will prepare comments for 1-2 proposals (of fellow students) The comments should also be submitted in

	written form, be formulated in a constructive and problem-oriented way, and be about 1 page long.
Readings (if applicable)	Students will read 1-2 proposals of fellow students to prepare for discussion

Session 5: xx.xx.2021

Individual short meetings

Aim	Overcoming challenges that arise throughout the research and writing process. Students will have short individual meetings to discuss their thesis progress.
Assignment	Compile list of concrete questions to be discussed in meeting.

Session 6: xx.xx.2021

Open session (tailored towards demand)

Aim	Open Q&A Session to clarify last questions
Assignment	We will clarify common 'last-minute' questions and discuss any remaining open points.