



Summer Term 2020

Hauptseminar zu Themen der internationalen Politik

Norms in International Relations

Language: English
Credits: 8 ECTS
Date: Thursday, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Norms can have important constitutive and regulative effects in international relations: They constitute states' and other actors' identities and preferences and they constrain their leeway by making norm-violating behavior costly. This seminar investigates the many different ways in which norms can shape international politics. We get to know basic concepts such as the norm life cycle, norm emergence and norm socialization. We ask how norms change over time, how they diffuse across space, and how they adapt to different contexts. We also concern ourselves with processes of norm contestation and norm regress or death. Empirically, the seminar draws primarily on examples from the issues areas human rights, security and development.

Language of instruction: English; discussions and presentations will be held in English unless all participants agree to change to German. Essays may be submitted in either English or German language.

Admission conditions: This is a Master-level course open to students of the MA program in Political Science as well as other Political Science programs (Hauptstudium Diplom, Wahlpflichtfach, Magister-Nebenfach). Other students are welcome if their knowledge of international politics so warrants.

To obtain a certificate participants have to write an essay ('Hausarbeit') of about 20 pages (12 point font size, 1.5 space, 2cm margin) excluding title page, abstract, literature, and possible annexes). The essay is due on 30 September 2020.

Information on how the course will be taught (online teaching) will be published shortly.