

**Prof. Dr. Monika Heupel**

Professur für internationale und europäische Politik

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monika.heupel@uni-bamberg.de



Hauptseminar zu Themen der internationalen Politik

## **Norms in International Relations**

Summer term 2023

**Language:** English  
**Credits:** 8 ECTS  
**Date:** Thursday, 8-10 a.m.  
**Room:** F21/02.31

### **Outline:**

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 strength and norm clusters. 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, norm regress, and norm collisions. Empirically, the seminar draws primarily on examples from the issues areas human rights and security.

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.

## Requirements:

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. Other students are welcome if their knowledge of international politics so warrants.

Participants are expected to:

- Read the required reading.
- Attend the meetings regularly and participate in seminar discussions.

To obtain a certificate participants also have to:

- give a **presentation**
  - Topic, research question and outline should be discussed with me at least one week prior to the presentation.
  - The presentation should include a powerpoint presentation.
  - The presentation should be no longer than 15 minutes.
  - After the presentation the presenters will moderate a discussion of about 25 minutes.
- Write an **essay** ('Hausarbeit') of about 18 pages (12 point font size, 1.5 space, 2cm margin) excluding title page, literature, and possible annexes:
  - The essay examines an issue of the seminar in a theory-/concept-based way.
  - The essay will use a qualitative method.
  - The essay is due on 16 October 2023 and is to be submitted via the VC.

You are also strongly encouraged (but do not have to) to **present your ideas for your essay** in the last sessions!

The **Virtual Campus** is very important for you:

- You find the reading material of the course in the VC.
- If I want to contact you, I will use the email distribution list that comprises the email addresses with which you have registered in the VC.
- In the VC Forum you can communicate with fellow seminar participants.
- You will upload your essay in the VC.