

**LEHRSTUHL FÜR STEUERUNG INNOVATIVER
UND KOMPLEXER TECHNISCHER SYSTEME
DR. SOFIA PAGLIARIN**



Lehrveranstaltungen SS 2021

Seminar: Making Sense of Digital Technologies

Room: Online (Zoom)
Time: Monday, 12:00 – 14:00 s.t.
Start: 12. April 2021

Course Description

Digital technologies have had a tremendous impact on our everyday lives. The internet entered our homes increasingly since the end-1990s, and nowadays the internet pervades our lives: we navigate online, we own smartphones, have a profile in one or more social media platforms, we access ‘e-government’ services and follow online teaching. Scholars and governance actors have been substantially challenged by the ‘discovery’ of digital technologies and how these changed the way we work, govern and interact.

In the first part of this course, we will discuss some of the main frameworks and concepts that scholars proposed in the past 25 years when trying to make sense of the emergence and impacts of digital technologies in contemporary societies. In class, we will discuss together some of the works about digital technologies that tried, in the early 2000s, to give a name to unprecedented changes brought about digital technologies and that now we take for granted. In the second part of the course, we will discuss some of the key issues and challenges that digital technologies bring about in our everyday life and how politics and policy have changed because of the evolution of digital tools. We will focus our discussion on specific topics, such as the digital divide, e-government and algorithm-based policy, terrorism and activism through the internet, and gender issues related to mobile dating apps.

This course is an introduction of the more advanced course ‘Governance in the Digital Age’ offered to Master students and to other courses offered at the Chair of Governance of Complex and Innovative Technological Systems.

The learning goals of the course are the following:

- To discuss some key concepts mapping the rise of digital technologies
- To summarize and explain the main characteristics and impacts of digital technologies on society

- To have an overview the relationship between digital technology, politics and policy
- To develop a critical assessment of the ways in which digital technology, politics and policy interact

Course structure:

The course, as well as the reading material, is taught in English. Lectures are structured on participation and discussion following Problem-Based Learning (PBL). For more information about PBL, please see our Pinboard: <https://vc.uni-bamberg.de/course/view.php?id=42243>.

Course type:

The course will be taught online via Zoom. Please register on the VC and through FlexNow to be informed about the Zoom meeting ID and password.

Course Evaluation:

Chairing/supporting discussion in class (20% of the grade) and term paper (80% of the grade).

Course Literature:

Articles and book chapters are available online on the Virtual Campus.

Course Syllabus:

The detailed Syllabus of the course will be circulated in due time.

Sprechstunde:

Wednesdays, 14:00-16:00 via MS Teams (also by appointment)

Mail:

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