

LEHRSTUHL FÜR STEUERUNG INNOVATIVER UND KOMPLEXER TECHNISCHER SYSTEME NIKOLAUS JOPKE, M.A.



Education Program SS 2017

Seminar: Governance of Complex Systems III – Introduction to Qualitative Comparative Analysis

Room: FMA/00.07

Time: Wednesday, 16-18 h

Start: 26th of April 2017

Short Description:

This seminar series for qualitative research methods introduces students to Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA). This method is designed for comparison of dissimilar cases, using qualitative data. This course is valuable for all students who are considering using qualitative methods, for example in their thesis projects.

One of the main advantages of QCA is that it strikes a balance between complexity and generalization. As students of the governance of complex systems, we often use case study methods and rich qualitative data to analyze and understand our objects of study. These in-depth studies allow us to capture the unique complexities of the cases. For example, a case study into the development of a road or rail system, using series of interviews and/or project documents allows us to understand the difficulties of cooperation between governments and market actors (e.g. construction companies), that have very different institutional logics, in a particular project that is being implemented in a unique complex socio-physical environment. But such studies have a problem: they often lack generalizability exactly because they delve into the complexity of a particular case, which makes cases difficult to compare. So, how can we compare dissimilar cases; how can we compare apples and oranges? How can we learn from the study of the governance of one complex system for the governance of another complex system? This course introduces QCA as a method to deal with this problem.

In this hands-on seminar series, you will learn how, and to what extent, QCA is a suitable method for studying the governance of complex systems. You will do this by designing a research project in which you apply QCA.

Notes:

The seminar will be taught in English.

Registration:

Via FlexNow! From April 1st until May 13th, 2017

Speaking hours:

By arrangement.

Mail: nikolaus.jopke@uni-bamberg.de