Socio-technological Evolution

Room: F21/03.80
Time: Wednesday, 10-12 h
Start: 26th of April 2017

Short Description:
There is an argument that says that technology shapes the way we live. There is also a counter-argument that says that we are full control of technology and that we can determine what to do with it, instead of the other way around. Viewed from a long-term perspective, however, it is clear that society and technology co-evolve over time. This course starts from the premise of co-evolution and asks the question: what characterizes this co-evolution and what is the role of governance in this co-evolution?

We will engage in the scientific debate regarding technological determinism and governance. We will also pay ample attention to the emergence and properties of evolutionary theories in the social sciences, in particular in relation to complex systems. We will cover a wide range of literature, including some from theoretical biology, evolutionary economics and social theory. Naturally, all theoretical ideas will be illustrated with real-world examples of governance of technological systems. This interdisciplinary course is in particular interesting to curious students who are open-minded and eager to learn how other disciplines can inform political science in general, and the politics of technology in particular.

Notes:
The seminar will be taught in English.
Test and grading: paper.
Minimum - maximum number of participants: 3-15

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

Speaking hours:
Thursday, 11-12 h

Mail: lasse.gerrits@uni-bamberg.de