Education Program SS 2018

Specialization Module: Analyzing Mega Projects

Room: KÄ7/01.10
Time: Opening session:
April 11th 16:00-18:00, Room F21/03.01
Course:
Friday, April 20th, 9:00-17:30 s.t.;
Saturday, April 21st, 9:00-12:30 s.t.
Friday, May 25th, 9:00-17:30 s.t.;
Saturday, May 26th, 9:00-12/14:30h s.t.
Start: April 11th 2018

Short Description:
Thorough plans are generally needed to carry out any type of project. However, it can be surprising to know that for multi-million-worth megaprojects, such as the Berlin-Brandenburg Airport, Stuttgart 21 and the Elbphilharmonie (if one only looks at Germany), project planning and management have been faulty. In this course, we will see how it happens that "failure" in megaprojects worldwide is the rule rather than the exception. We will unpack what "project management" means in infrastructure and megaprojects by looking at specific actors and their arrangements, technological aspects of the project, unforeseen (or only partially foreseen) events and complex context conditions affecting the projects' implementation and the application of any simple and general formula. Basically we will consider the complex nature of megaprojects, and understand why "stuff get messy". We introduce and discuss a range of empirical case-studies, which will be framed and discussed through analytical elements and theories. Beyond providing conceptual tools, a selection of methods to approach the complexity of megaproject formulation and implementation are presented and discussed.

Course organisation:
The course is organised as a block seminar in two intensive two-day workshops. The course is taught in English.

Registration:
Via FlexNow! From March 1st until April 16th 2018 or during the first lesson.

Evaluation:
Scheduled presentations and active participation in class (25%); Final paper (75%).
Office hours:
Wednesday, 14:00-16:00 (Room FG1/01.14) and by arrangement
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