

**LEHRSTUHL FÜR STEUERUNG INNOVATIVER UND KOMPLEXER  
TECHNISCHER SYSTEME  
DR. MARTIN WIRTZ**

**Hauptseminar: Socio-Technological Evolution (Steuerung technischer Systeme II)**

**Room:** F21/03.02 // KÄ7/01.10  
**Time:** Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 10-12h c.t. //  
Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 9-16.30h s.t.  
Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9-18h s.t.  
Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 9-16.30h s.t.  
**Start:** April 11<sup>th</sup> 2018  
**Notes:** The seminar will be taught in English.  
**Registration:** Via FlexNow! March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> 2018  
**Office hours:** Wednesday, 14-16 h and by arrangement; Room: F21/03.69  
**Mail:** [martin.wirtz@uni-bamberg.de](mailto:martin.wirtz@uni-bamberg.de)

**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. 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 where there is a continuous reciprocal influence between technology and society, and asks the questions: what characterizes this co-evolution? And what is the role of politics and 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.