Education Program WS 2020/21

(Main-) Seminar: **Governance of Complex Systems IV – Governance in the Digital Age**

Room: Online
Time: Tuesday, 12-14 h
Start: 3rd of November 2020

Course Description:

It may seems ages ago that ordinary people could afford a computer at home and access the internet. Yet, historically speaking, it all has happened in the blink of an eye. The evolution of digital technology outpaces the politics and policy to such an extent that politicians and administrators have a hard time keeping up with things. There is no denying that the digital age has a profound impact on society. This impact ranges from the simple (e.g. looking up information) to the more complex (e.g. securely engaging with public services via the internet), to the wicked (e.g. the dynamics of toxic online communities). The impact of digital technology will be a lasting one. As such, it is of pivotal importance that we get a better understanding of what digital technology means in all its facets, as well as what its implications for politics and policy are. These are the core themes of the course.

Learning goals of the course:

- To summarize and explain the main characteristics of various digital technologies
- To analyse 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); see Chair's website and VC Pin Board for more information. The course is taught in English and it is organised in sessions. The lectures will take place online (Zoom). Further information on online lectures will be shared in due time on VC. If possible and allowed, occasional face-to-face lectures might be organised following the current hygienic rules and regulations.

Course Evaluation:

Chairing/supporting discussion in class (25% of the grade) and term paper (75% of the grade). Two sessions will be available during the course to get feedback on your papers.

Course Literature:

Reading material for the course will be available online on the Virtual Campus.

Course Syllabus:

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

Speaking hours:

Thursday, 14-16 h (also by appointment)

Mail:

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