

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg  
Professur für Politikwissenschaft,  
insbes. international vergleichende Politikfeldanalyse  
Dr. Michele Mioni  
Email: [michele.mioni@uni-bamberg.de](mailto:michele.mioni@uni-bamberg.de)  
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**Sommersemester 2022**

PWM-PF-HS2 Hauptseminar Politikfeldanalyse II:  
**Historical Methods for Social Sciences: Theories, Interpretations, Sources,  
Actors of Social Policy**

**Lecturer:** Dr Michele Mioni  
**Description:** Main Seminar (Master's Seminar Policy Analysis II)  
**Language:** English  
**Hours and Room:** Tuesday 14:00 - 16:00, [FMA/01.20](#)  
**Credits:** 8

**Evaluation and Workload:** Students are expected to read papers and chapters assigned for each class to actively participate in the course. Depending on the number of students, the evaluation will consist of:

Presentation and analysis of the assigned readings and historical sources (30% of the final grade);

Short research paper (10,000 characters with spaces included) based on primary sources and literature that will be discussed in class with the other participants (70% of the final grade).

**Language of the Course:** English

**Short Description:**

The seminar focuses on historical methodology, interpretations, and sources for welfare studies. It aims to get the students more familiar with the practical and theoretical aspects of historical research, and how it contributes to political/social sciences approaches. The seminar addresses several aspects: methods of historical research; transnational and global history of welfare state; archival research; critical analysis of the sources.

The first part of the seminar discusses the complementary approaches of historiography and political/social sciences, i.e., periodisation, empirical and qualitative methods, interpretations and theories. The second part dives into the specific tool of historical investigation, i.e., the use of primary sources. Based on the critical analysis of relevant documents, the students will be able to contextualise historically their contents.