Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg Lehrstuhl für Policy-Analyse



PWB-PF-S: Seminar Politikfeldanalyse: Public or Private? Policy Analysis and the Provision of Essential Services in Advanced Economies

Dozent/in / Lecturer: Thorsten Reppert, M.A.

Angaben

Seminar Rein Präsenz 2 SWS, Unterrichtssprache Englisch

Zeit und Ort: Mi. 14:00 - 16:00, F21/03.84

Inhalt

The interplay between state and market is a central issue in political economy, shaping ongoing debates about the provision of essential services and the development of infrastructure. Who should be in charge of providing everyday commodities such as energy, transportation, and telecommunications—the government or private enterprises?

Historically, state-owned enterprises have played a crucial role in many sectors, often working in partnership with private investors. This approach reached its peak in the Western world after World War II, before a wave of privatization led many countries to shift toward more market-driven solutions. Since then, the state's withdrawal from public service provision has fuelled discussions — balancing efficiency gains against market failures, competition against social responsibility.

This seminar explores the key factors influencing infrastructure and public service provision from a political science perspective. Following a historical introduction, students will engage with key theories of policy analysis through selected texts. They will be encouraged to critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of publicly run and private service models, challenge academic perspectives, and engage with contemporary debates.

Assignments

To pass the seminar, students must:

- Participate in two "text debates", defending or critiquing assigned texts, submitting a one-page summary of their main arguments beforehand.
- Submit a term paper addressing a research question with an empirical focus

Englischsprachige Informationen:

Title: PWB-PF-S: Seminar Policy Analysis: " Public or Private? Policy Analysis and the Provision of Essential Services in Advanced Economies"

Credits: 6