

Seminar: Interdisciplinary Analyses in European Global Studies (19760-01)
Spring Semester 2023
6 ECTS

Class Schedule

Mondays, 12.00-14.00

*Hörsaal 00.015 (Orangerie)
Sandgrube, Riehenstrasse 154*

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Description

This seminar has the general aim of preparing students to write seminar papers and master theses from an interdisciplinary perspective by combining insights from lecturers with background in three fields – law, the humanities and economics. Our approach will be strongly practice-oriented with a major focus on leading students through the main steps of the research process. We also intend to initiate a discussion on what the term interdisciplinary means, on what possible forms it may have in research, and on the role it plays in the general framework of European Global Studies. Students are asked to write an interdisciplinary paper, to actively participate in classroom discussions, and to participate in the peer-review process by providing feedback on the work of their fellow students. The students will also benefit from timely feedback from the lecturers at various stages of the writing process, with the aim of helping them improve their academic writing skills.

Learning objectives

The seminar prepares students for writing an interdisciplinary master thesis and also gives them an opportunity to critically engage in an inter- or multidisciplinary dialogue in the broad area of European Global Studies:

- Students will become familiar with the concepts of disciplinarity and interdisciplinarity
- Students will learn how to navigate an interdisciplinary studies program
- Students will learn the advantages and difficulties of working with an interdisciplinary approach
- Students will learn to apply an interdisciplinary analysis to a particular topic
- Students will improve their academic writing skills

Schedule

Week 1 20.02.2023	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the syllabus, the format of the seminar and the grading • Students are ready to discuss their expectations and (inter-)disciplinary backgrounds
27.02.2023	Fasnachtsferien (no class)
Week 2 06.03.2023	What does interdisciplinarity mean? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest lecture by Shrey Kapoor followed by discussion • Required reading: Harvey J. Graff, "The 'Problem' of Interdisciplinarity in Theory, Practice, and History," <i>Social Science History</i> 40 (2016): 775-803.
Week 3 13.03.2023	Examples of interdisciplinary work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided discussion on the basis of student papers from previous terms • Student papers will be made available on ADAM
Week 4 20.03.2023	Peer discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small groups (4-6 students) • Exchange of ideas for final papers among peers
Topic submission deadline: 27 March 2023, 14:00 (uploaded to ADAM)	
Week 5 27.03.2023	Writing a paper: Literature review and research question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 min lecture • 30 min Q&A
Week 6 03.04.2023	Writing a paper: Methodology, Abstracts and Titles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 min lecture • 30 min Q&A
10.04.2023	Easter break (no class)
Homework submission deadline: 14 April 2023, 23:59 (uploaded to ADAM)	
Week 7 17.04.2023	Writing an Interdisciplinary Master's Thesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation & Roundtable with former students Jana Lichtin and Lea Kasper • Required readings: Jana Lichtin, "Entwicklung und Diskussion des Kriegsmaterialrechts seit 1972," <i>Basel Papers</i> 122 (2022): 25-46 and Lea Kasper, "Die Basler Handelskammer und deren Interesse am Weltmarkt 1876-1925: Eine Untersuchung mithilfe von Text Mining Methoden" (short description of MA thesis)
Week 8 24.4.2023	Writing week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No class • Students write their paper drafts
01.05.2023	Labour day (no class)
Revised draft submission deadline: 2 May 2023, 23:59 (uploaded to ADAM)	
Week 9 08.05.2023	Supervised peer discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students present their draft papers revised on the basis of the instructors' comments on their homework • Oral feedback from student discussants and peers • In small groups • 4 time slots available: 8-10am, 10-12am, 2-4pm, 4-6pm (allocation tbd)
Week 10 15.05.2023	What are European Global Studies? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest lecture by Professor Madeleine Herren-Oesch followed by discussion • Required reading: TBA
Week 11 22.05.2023	Final discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q&A session in preparation of final papers
29.05.2023	Pentecost Monday (no class)
Final paper submission deadline: 20 June 2023, 23:59 (uploaded to ADAM)	

Grading

Students will be required to read the compulsory readings, submit homework, present a draft of their seminar paper in the class and provide oral feedback on other students' papers. Based on the feedback, students have to submit the final version of their seminar paper after the last session. Students will receive written feedback on their homework as well as oral feedback on their draft papers.

Presentation and discussion (week 9): 10%

Homework: 20%

Paper: 70%

Formal requirements for the paper

The paper should be no longer than 10 pages (excluding the table of contents and appendices, line spacing 1.5, Times New Roman, font size 12), and it must be written in English. The usual terms and conditions for scientific work (regarding the citation rules, etc.) apply. Additional writing requirements will be communicated during the seminar meetings.

According § 5.2 in conjunction with § 7.4 of the Program Guidelines to the MA European Global Studies the paper has to contain the following declaration on plagiarism:

“Hiermit bestätige ich mit meiner Unterschrift, dass meine Angaben über die bei der Abfassung meiner Arbeit benutzten Hilfsmittel sowie über die mir zuteil gewordene Hilfe in jeder Hinsicht der Wahrheit entsprechen und vollständig sind. Ich habe § 21 der Studienordnung des Master European Global Studies und Abschnitt 6.6 der entsprechenden Wegleitung gelesen und bin mir der Konsequenzen eines solchen Handelns bewusst.”

Topic

This seminar is open to any topic which students would like to deal with. Questions that have been raised or left open in other courses offered in the Master of European Global Studies may provide a good starting point to develop an interesting research idea. In case of any questions regarding the search for topic/research question, students may contact the lecturers. Please inform the lecturers about your chosen topic no later than 27.03.2023, 14.00 (fill in the table “Topics” on ADAM).

Obligatory attendance

Students are required to attend each session of the seminar, thus increasing the benefits for all participants. Students who cannot attend a session for any reason should contact the lecturers beforehand.

Group allocation

Participants will be allocated to one of three groups, each of which will be the responsibility of one lecturer. The groups will be determined by week 3. If you have any questions, we ask that you write to the lecturer in charge of your group.