

Winter Term 2020/21

University of Cologne, Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences

Cologne Center for Comparative Politics (CCCP)

Chair of International Comparative Political Economy and Economic Sociology

Doctoral & Master Course: Who Rules the Economy? The Political Economy of Labor and Business Power

ECTS: 9

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Statement on Exceptional Circumstances

The Covid-19 pandemic is creating exceptional circumstances for everyone. Classes have been moved online. This is all new to us and will be difficult for everyone involved. Please accept that also the winter semester will not be easy. I can ensure you that I will take the current circumstances into account when grading this class, and I hope you will do the same when evaluating yourself. It is my hope that with this class we will be able to create an (online) community, which is a beacon of stability in turbulent times. Please be mindful and support each other, even as total strangers. I will do the same and I am looking forward to meeting all of you (online). **Please check your email-account regularly.**

Usually this course is onsite and would be structured into two parts: (1) weekly sessions on concepts and theories and empirical studies on labor and business power; (2) full day session: Discussing your individual term paper outlines.

Due to the pandemic this class is an online course. It will be organized along **7 Zoom-meetings, videos which you can stream**, and, **individual office hours (via zoom) in week 3, 2021** (for preparing your term papers).

All teaching material is available online at Ilias, including the professor's slides with 20 Minutes video podcasts. **Please stream the podcasts before our zoom meetings. If you don't stream the video in advance and if you don't read the compulsory reading in advance, we won't be able to discuss in our zoom meetings.** Many thanks!

Our SEVEN LIVE Zoom Meetings are scheduled as follows:

Slot 1: Wednesday, 04.11, 4.00pm-5.30pm: Obligatory Introduction & Basics

Slot 2, Wednesday, 11.11, 4.00pm-5.30pm: Labor & Business Power

Slot 3, Wednesday, 18.11, 4.00pm-5.30pm: Power & International Political Economy & State

Slot 4, Wednesday, 25.11, 4.00pm-5.30pm: Power & Finance & Financialization

Slot 5, Wednesday, 02.12, 4.00pm-5.30pm: Power & Digital Economy I

Slot 6, Wednesday, 09.12, 4.00pm-5.30pm: Power & Digital Economy I

Slot 7, Wednesday, 03.02, 3.00pm-6.00pm: Mini-Conference: Students' Outlines

Course Description: Who rules the economy? Comparative political economy comprises the analysis of the power relationship between labor and capital. But what is economic power? Do both have the same amount of political power? How can labor and business power (resources) be measured? How do labor and business influence public policies at the national and international level? How are labor and business power affected by mega trends such as economic globalization, de-industrialization and digitalization? On the basis of conceptual papers and empirical studies, this course discusses theories and concepts for the comparative analysis of labor and business power. As the seminar's overarching goal is to enable participants to write their own research papers on labor or business influence based on the concepts introduced and discussed in class, regular attendance is of utmost importance for the quality of term papers. All texts are available on the ILIAS-website of the course.

Requirements and evidence of academic achievement:

Participants are expected to hand in a two-page outline of their planned term papers before January 27, 2021.

Final grading is based on **individual summaries** (which means a summary (review) of the respective paper; see syllabus "summary"), **discussing an outline** of your fellow student (which means that you hand in a written comment on a fellow student's term paper outline, for the mini-conference on February 3) and the **term paper**, thus, an empirical-analytical research paper (handed in on March 20, 2021 (late assignments will be penalized, unless prior arrangements are made!)).

The **final marking** is as follows: **30% individual summary; 70% term paper**. You have to fulfill both assignments as requirement.

Bonus points: You can earn a bonus of **"0,3"** on your final grade if you hand in **one question on the mandatory reading in each week** (slot 2-slot 6; questions have to be handed in until Friday 8am of the respective slot).

Please register for this course via KLIPS 2. After the first class (Nov. 4, 2020) no further enrolments will be accepted.

Students are expected to: attend sessions regularly, actively contribute to class discussions, complete assigned readings according to schedule: "compulsory reading" – all students read; "summary" – only reading by the assigned student; discuss an outline; write a term paper of not more than 10,000 words, own research on literature/data/material is required. All papers will be checked for plagiarism. Term papers have to be written in English language. Since nearly all reading assignments are in English, this will be the general classroom language as well. Participants therefore must know enough English to be able to participate actively. Perfection is not required – you just need to understand and make yourself understood.

	Slot 1, Wednesday, 04.11, 4.00pm – 5.30pm Introduction & Basics
	<p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pierson, P. (2016): Power in Historical Institutionalism. In: Fioretos, O., Falleti, T.G., Sheingate, A. (eds): <i>The Oxford Handbook of Historical Institutionalism</i>, Oxford: Oxford University Press. 124-141. • Weber, M. (1978): Economy and Society: An Outline of Interpretative Sociology. 16. Power and Domination. In: Roth, G., & Wittich, C. (eds): <i>Economy and Society: An Outline of Interpretative Sociology</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press. 53-54. • Dür, A. (2008). Measuring Interest Group Influence in the EU: A Note on Methodology. <i>European Union Politics</i>, 9(4), 559-576.
	Slot 2, Wednesday, 11.11, 4.00pm – 5.30pm Labor & Business Power
Deadline Summary, Nov. 6, 12pm	<p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korpi, W. (1983): <i>The Democratic Class Struggle</i>. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. 1-6, 7-25, 184-207. • Culpepper, P.D. (2015): Structural Power and Political Science in the Post-Crisis Era. <i>Business and Politics</i>, 17(3), 391-409. • Culpepper, P.D. (2010): <i>Quiet politics and business power: Corporate control in Europe and Japan</i>. Cambridge University Press. 177-98. <p>Summary_1_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huber, E., Huo, J., Stephens, J.D. (2019): Power, Policy, and Top Income Shares. <i>Socio-Economic Review</i> 17(29), 231-253. <p>Summary_2_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culpepper, P.D., Reinke, R. (2014): Structural Power and Bank Bailouts in the United Kingdom and the United States. <i>Politics & Society</i>, 42(4), 427-454. <p>Summary_3_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young, K. (2015): Not by Structure Alone: Power, Prominence, and Agency in American Finance. <i>Business and Politics</i>, 17(3), 443-472.
	Slot 3, Wednesday, 18.11, 4.00pm – 5.30pm Power & International Political Economy
Deadline Summary, Nov. 13, 8am	<p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnett, M., Duvall, R. (2005): Power in International Politics. <i>International Organization</i>, 59(1), 39-75. <p>Summary_4_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim, In Song (2017): Political Cleavages within Industry: Firm-level Lobbying for Trade Liberalization. <i>American Political Science Review</i> 111(1): 1-20. <p>Summary_5_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braun, B. (2018): Central Banking and the Infrastructural Power of Finance: The Case of ECB Support for Repo and Securitization Markets. <i>Socio-Economic Review</i>, Online First. <p>Summary_6_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weiss, L., Thurbon, E. (2018). Power Paradox: How the Extension of US Infrastructural Power Abroad Diminishes State Capacity at Home. <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>, 25(6), 779-810.

	Slot 4, Wednesday, 25.11, 4.00pm – 5.30pm Power & Finance & Financialization
Deadline Summary, Nov. 20, 8am	<p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young, K.L., Marple, T., Heilman, J. (2017): Beyond the Revolving Door: Advocacy Behavior and Social Distance to Financial Regulators. <i>Business and Politics</i>, 19(2), 327-364. • Wittko, C. (2014): The Politics of Financialization in the United States, 1949-2005. <i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 46: 349-370. <p>Summary _07_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trampusch, C. & Fastenrath, F. (2019): States' Interests as Limits to the Power of Finance: Regulatory Reforms in Early Local Government. <i>Regulation & Governance</i>. Forthcoming. <p>Summary _08_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bell, S., Hindmoor, A. (2016): Structural Power and the Politics of Bank Capital Regulation in the United Kingdom. <i>Political Studies</i>, 65(1), 103-121. <p>Summary _09_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meyer, B. (2019). Financialization, Technological Change, and Trade Union Decline. <i>Socio-Economic Review</i> 17(3): 477-502.
	Slot 5, Wednesday, 02.12, 4.00pm – 5.30pm Power & Digital Economy I
Deadline Summary, Nov. 27, 8am	<p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culpepper, P.D., Thelen, K. (2020): Are We All Amazon Primed? Consumers and the Politics of Platform Power." <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> 53(2), 288-318. <p>Summary _10_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seidl, T., (2020): The politics of platform capitalism: A case study on the regulation of Uber in New York. <i>Regulation & Governance</i>, Online First <p>Summary _11_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kalyanpur, N., Newman, A.L. (2019): The MNC-Coalition Paradox: Issue Salience, Foreign Firms and the General Data Protection Regulation. <i>Journal of Common Market Studies</i> 57(3), 448-467.
	Slot 6, Wednesday, 09.12, 4.00pm – 5.30pm Power & Digital Economy II
Deadline Summary, Dec. 4, 8am	<p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rahman, K.S, Thelen, K. (2019): The Rise of the Platform Business Model and the Transformation of Twenty-First-Century Capitalism. <i>Politics & Society</i> 47(2), 177-204. <p>Summary _12_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hope, D., & Martelli, A. (2019). The Transition to the Knowledge Economy, Labor Market Institutions, and Income Inequality in Advanced Democracies. <i>World Politics</i>, 71(2), 236-288. <p>Summary _13_NN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meyer, B., Biegert, T. (2019). The Conditional Effect of Technological Change on Collective Bargaining Coverage. <i>Research & Politics</i>; Online First.
	Slot 7, Wednesday, 03.02, 3.00pm – 6.00pm Mini-Conference: Discussion of students' two pages outline of their term papers