

Winter Term 2016/2017

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 and Master Course: Case Study Methods in Comparative Political Economy

ECTS: 6

Instructor: PD Dr. Dennis C. Spies

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Time: Tuesday, 16:00 to 17:30

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Description: In Comparative Political Economy case study methods are used for theory building and theory tests (in the sense of plausibility probes). On the one hand, there are single case study methods such as analytic narrative and process tracing. On the other hand, case oriented researchers apply comparative case study methods such as parallel demonstration of theory, the method of contrasting contexts and the methods of agreement and difference. The course introduces into these methods theoretically, methodologically and practically. In addition, we discuss conceptions of causality and strategies of case selection. Students also have the possibility to present their own research designs.

Requirements and evidence of academic achievement: Each student has to prepare the compulsory reading in advance. Furthermore, each student has to write one essay which she/he will present in class and will be assigned to be discussant of one of the essays. The essays have to be handed in latest one week before they are discussed in class. In addition, each student has to write a term paper (*Hausarbeit*) in which he/she applies a special case study method to address a particular research question or in which she/he gives a critical overview over methodological literature about a special case study method. Students will be graded on the quality of their presentations and essays and the quality of the term paper. The term papers have to be delivered latest on **March 20, 2017**. The report should not exceed 10.000 words. Own research on literature/data/material is required. All reports are checked for plagiarism. Please read for further information about plagiarism: www.cccp.uni-koeln.de. We use the software "turnitin" to check for plagiarism: <http://www.wiso-it.uni-koeln.de/turnitin.html>. **Essays and term papers have to be written in English language.**

Reading: All texts are available on the ILIAS-website of the course.

General references on methodological books which are recommended for further reading:

- Beach, Derek/Rasmus B. Pedersen (2013): *Process Tracing Methods – Foundations and Guidelines*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Brady, Henry/David Collier (2004): *Rethinking Social Inquiry. Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.
- George, Alexander L./Andrew Bennett (2005): *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences*. Cambridge: MIT Press.
- Gerring, John (2007): *Case Study Research: Principles and Practices*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Goertz, Gary (2006): *Social Science Concepts. A User's Guide*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Haverland, Markus/Joachim Blatter (2012): *Designing Case Studies: Explanatory Approaches in Small-N Research*. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan.
- King, Gary/Robert Keohane/Sidney Verba (1994): *Designing Social Inquiry. Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Mahoney, James/Dietrich Rueschemeyer (2003): *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Ragin, Charles (1987): *The Comparative Method: Moving beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Date	Topic
18.10.16	<u>Introduction</u>
25.10.16	<u>Research Designs & Case Studies</u> Compulsory reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George, Alexander L./Andrew Bennett (2005): <i>Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences</i>. Cambridge: MIT Press. 73-124 (Chapters 4-6).
1.11.16	<u>“A Tale of Two Cultures”: Case Studies vs. Quantitative Methods</u> Compulsory reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahoney, James/Gary Goertz (2006): A Tale of Two Cultures: Contrasting Quantitative and Qualitative Research. In: <i>Political Analysis</i> 14(3). 227-49. Students’ presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation 1, N.N.: King, Gary/Robert O. Keohane/Sidney Verba (1994): <i>Designing Social Inquiry</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 3-34 (Chapter 1). • Presentation 2, N.N.: Ragin, Charles (1997): Turning the Tables: How Case-oriented Research Challenges Variable-oriented Research. In: <i>Comparative Social Research</i> 16. 27-42. I recommend the following additional reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyvbjerg, Bent (2006): Five Misunderstandings about Case-Study Research. In: <i>Qualitative Inquiry</i> 12(2). 219-45.
8.11.16	<u>Causality and Causal Mechanisms</u> Compulsory reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goertz, Gary/James Mahoney (2012): <i>A Tale of Two Cultures. Qualitative and Quantitative Research in the Social Sciences</i>. Princeton/Oxford: Princeton University Press. 41-83 (Chapters 3-6). • Beach, Derek/Rasmus Brun Pedersen (2013): <i>Process-Tracing Methods. Foundations and Guidelines</i>. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press. 23-44 (Chapter 3). Students’ presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation 3, N.N.: Hedström, Peter/Petri Ylikoski (2010): Causal Mechanisms in the Social Sciences. In: <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> 36(1). 49-67. • Presentation 4, N.N.: Falleti, Tulia G./Julia Lynch (2009): Context and Causal Mechanism in Political Analysis. In: <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> 42(9). 1143-66.

15.11.16	<p><u>Case Selection</u></p> <p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levy, Jack S. (2008): Case Studies: Types, Designs, and Logics of Inference. In: <i>Conflict Management and Peace Science</i> 25. 1-18. <p>Students' presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation 5, N.N.: Mahoney, James/Gary Goertz (2004): The Possibility Principle: Choosing Negative Cases in Comparative Research. In: <i>American Political Science Review</i> 98(4). 653-69. Presentation 6, N.N.: Rueschemeyer, Dietrich (2003): Can One or a Few Cases Yield Theoretical Gains? In: James Mahoney/Dietrich Rueschemeyer (eds.): <i>Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 305-36. <p>I recommend the following as additional readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ebbinghaus, Bernhard (2005): When Less is More. Selection Problems in Large-N and Small-N Cross-National Comparisons. In: <i>International Sociology</i> 20(2). 133-52. Eckstein, Harry [1975] (1992): Case Study and Theory in Political Science. In: <i>ibid.: Regarding Politics. Essays on Political Theory, Stability, and Change</i>. Berkeley/Los Angeles: University of California Press. 79-138.
22.11.16	<p><u>Comparative Method</u></p> <p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lieberson, Stanley (1991): Small N's and Big Conclusions: An Examination of the Reasoning in Comparative Studies Based on a Small Number of Cases. In: <i>Social Forces</i> 70(2). 307-20. Savolainen, Jukka (1994): The Rationality of Drawing Big Conclusions Based on Small Samples: In Defense of Mill's Methods. In: <i>Social Forces</i> 72(4). 1217-24. <p>Students' presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation 7, N.N.: Geddes, Barbara (1990): How the Cases You Choose Affect the Answers You Get: Selection Bias in Comparative Politics. In: <i>Comparative Analysis</i> 2(1). 131-50. Presentation 8, N.N.: Trampusch, Christine (2010): Employers, the State, and the Politics of Institutional Change. Vocational Education and Training in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. In: <i>European Journal of Political Research</i> 49(4). 545-73.
29.11.16	<p><u>Parallel Demonstration of Theory & Contrast of Contexts</u></p> <p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skocpol, Theda/Margaret Somers (1980): The Uses of Comparative History in Macrosocial Inquiry. In: <i>Comparative Studies in Society and History</i> 22(2). 174-97. <p>Students' presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation 9, N.N.: Trampusch, Christine (2010): Co-evolution of Skills and Welfare in Coordinated Market Economies? A Comparative Historical Analysis of Denmark, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. In: <i>European Journal of Industrial Relations</i> 16(3). 197-220. Presentation 10, N.N.: Trampusch, Christine/Dennis Spies (2014): Agricultural Interests and the Origins of Capitalism: A Parallel Comparative History of Germany, Denmark, New Zealand, and the United States. In: <i>New Political Economy</i> 19(6). 918-942.

6.12.16	<p><u>Analytic Narrative</u></p> <p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bates, Robert H./Avner Greif/Margaret Levi/Jean-Laurent Rosenthal/Barry R. Weingast (eds.) (1998): <i>Analytic Narratives</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 3-22, 231-38. • Bates, Robert H./Avner Greif/Margaret Levi/Jean-Laurent Rosenthal/Barry R. Weingast (2000): Review: The Analytical Narrative Project. In: <i>American Political Science Review</i> 94(3). 696-702. • Levi, Margaret (2004): Analytic narrative approach to puzzles and problems. In: Ian Shapiro/Rogers M. Smith/Tarek E. Masoud (eds.): <i>Problems and Methods in the Study of Politics</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 201-22. <p>Students' presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation 11, N.N.: Bergstöm, Carl-Fredrik/Henry Farrell/Adrienne Héritier (2007): Legislate or Delegate? Bargaining over Implementation and Legislative Authority in the EU. In: <i>West European Politics</i> 30(2). 338-66. • Presentation 12, N.N.: Bates, Robert H. (1998): The International Coffee Organization. In: Bates, Robert H. et al. (eds.): <i>Analytic Narratives</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 194-230.
13.12.16	<p><u>Process Tracing I</u></p> <p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trampusch C, Palier B (2016) Between X and Y: How Process Tracing Contributes to Opening the Black Box of Causality. <i>New Political Economy</i>. [Last accessed July 11, 2016.] early view available from URL: http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/PPpc6ThNE9MejYc3DxXI/full <p>Students' presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation 13, N.N.: Beach, Derek/Rasmus Brun Pedersen (2013): <i>Process-Tracing Methods. Foundations and Guidelines</i>. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press. 9-44, 120-43 (Chapters 2,3,7). • Presentation 14, N.N.: Schimmelfennig, Frank (2001): The Community Trap: Liberal Norms, Rhetorical Action, and the Eastern Enlargement of the European Union. In: <i>International Organization</i> 55(1). 47-80.
20.12.16	<p><u>Process Tracing II</u></p> <p>Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall, Peter (2008): Systematic Process Analysis: When and How to use it. In: <i>European Political Science</i> 7(3). 304-17. <p>Students' presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation 15, N.N.: Trampusch, Christine (2013): Why Preferences and Institutions Change: A Systematic Process Analysis of Credit Rating in Germany. In: <i>European Journal of Political Research</i> 52; forthcoming. • Presentation 16, N.N.: Tannenwald, Nina (1999): The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use. In: <i>International Organization</i> 53 (3). 433-68.
10.1.17	<p><u>Presentations of Students' Research Designs</u></p>
17.1.17	<p><u>Presentations of Students' Research Designs</u></p>
24.1.17	<p><u>Presentations of Students' Research Designs and Conclusions</u></p>