

Summer Term 2021

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: Research Designs and Case Study Methods in Comparative Political Economy

ECTS: 9

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Due to the pandemic, this class is an online course. It will be organized along **seven Zoom-meetings, videos which you can stream, and, individual office hours (zoom)** in early July 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:

Slot 1, Thursday, April 15, 12.00am-1.30pm: Obligatory Introduction

Slot 2, Thursday, April 29, 12.00am-1.30pm: Research Designs & Case Studies I & II

Slot 3, Thursday, May 6, 12.00am-1.30pm: Causality & Causal Mechanisms

Slot 4, Thursday, May 20, 12.00am-1.30pm: Case Selection

Slot 5, Thursday, June 10, 12.00am-1.30pm: Comparative Method & PDT & CoC

Slot 6, Thursday, June 24, 12.00am-1.30pm: Analytic Narrative & Process Tracing

Slot 7, Thursday, July 15, 10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm: Systematic Process Analysis & Mini Conference

Statement on Exceptional Circumstances

The Covid-19 pandemic is creating exceptional circumstances for everyone. Classes have been moved online. This is difficult for everyone involved. Please accept that also this term 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.**

Course Description: The course teaches good research designs for case studies and we discuss conceptions of causality and strategies of case selection. Case studies 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 also introduces into these methods theoretically, methodologically and practically by prominent cases studies in the field of CPE. Students also have the possibility to present their own research designs (for example, first ideas on their Master Thesis). As the seminar's overarching goal is to enable participants to write their term papers, regular attendance is of utmost importance for the quality of term papers. It is expected that in their term papers students develop a research design to address a particular research question (design for their planned MA-thesis or Ph.D. project or any other empirical research project). 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 July 9, 2021. This outline will be discussed in our mini-conference on research projects on July 15, 2021.

Final grading is based on **individual summaries** (which means a summary and review of the respective paper; see syllabus "summary", to be submitted until Friday, 8am before the respective session) and the **term paper** in which the participants develop a research design for an empirical research project. It is recommended that this research design refers to the planned MA-thesis or Ph.D. project (handed in on September 1, 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 **answers on questions** which Prof. Trampusch poses on the mandatory reading for each session; details will be given in the introduction slot. Answers have to be submitted until Friday, 8am before the respective session.

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 respective presenter; 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 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: April 15, 12am-1.30pm, ZOOM
<p><u>Obligatory Introduction</u> Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goertz, G. (2017): <i>Multimethod Research, Causal Mechanisms, and Case Studies</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 1-5. Flyvbjerg, B. (2006): Five Misunderstandings about Case-Study Research. <i>Qualitative Inquiry</i>, 12(2), 219-45.
Slot 2: April 29, 12am-1.30pm, ZOOM
<p><u>Research Designs & Case Studies I & II (deadline for summaries April 23, 8am)</u> Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> George, A.L., Bennett, A. (2005): <i>Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences</i>. Cambridge: MIT Press. 73-124 (Chapters 4-6). Mahoney, J., Goertz, G. (2006): A Tale of Two Cultures: Contrasting Quantitative and Qualitative Research. <i>Political Analysis</i>, 14(3), 227-49. <p>Summary 1, N.N.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Han, K. J./Castater, E. G. (2016): They May not have the Skills, but they have the Desire: Why the Skill Composition of Trade Unions Matters for Wage Inequality. <i>Research in Social Stratification and Mobility</i>, 45, 1-12. <p>Summary 2, N.N.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dobbins, M./Busemeyer, M.R. (2015): Socio-Economic Institutions, Organized Interests and Partisan Politics: The Development of Vocational Education in Denmark and Sweden. <i>Socio-Economic Review</i>, 13(2), 259-284.
Slot 3: May 6, 12am-1.30pm, ZOOM
<p><u>Causality and Causal Mechanisms (deadline for summaries April 30, 8am)</u> Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goertz, G., Mahoney, J. (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, D., Pedersen, R.B. (2013): <i>Process-Tracing Methods. Foundations and Guidelines</i>. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press. 23-44 (Chapter 3). <p>Summary 3, N.N.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Falleti, T.G., Lynch, J. (2009): Context and Causal Mechanisms in Political Analysis. <i>Comparative Political Studies</i>, 42(9), 1143-66. <p>Summary 4, N.N.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ziblatt, D. (2009): Shaping Democratic Practice and the Causes of Electoral Fraud: The Case of nineteenth-century Germany. <i>American Political Science Review</i>, 103(1), 1-21.
Slot 4: May 20, 12am-1.30pm, ZOOM
<p><u>Case Selection (deadline for summaries May 14, 8am)</u> Compulsory reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levy, J.S. (2008): Case Studies: Types, Designs, and Logics of Inference. <i>Conflict Management and Peace Science</i>, 25, 1-18. Beach, D., Pedersen, R. B. (2018): Selecting Appropriate Cases When Tracing Causal Mechanisms. <i>Sociological Methods & Research</i>, 47(4). 837-871. <p>Summary 5, N.N.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mahoney, J., Goertz, G. (2004): The Possibility Principle: Choosing Negative Cases in Comparative Research. <i>American Political Science Review</i>, 98(4), 653-69. <p>Summary 6, N.N.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geddes, B. (1990): How the Cases You Choose Affect the Answers You Get: Selection Bias in Comparative Politics. <i>Comparative Analysis</i>, 2(1), 131-50.
Slot 5: June 10, 12am-1.30pm, ZOOM

Comparative Method (deadline for summaries June 4, 8am)

Compulsory reading:

- Savolainen, J. (1994): The Rationality of Drawing Big Conclusions Based on Small Samples: In Defense of Mill's Methods. *Social Forces*, 72(4), 1217-24.

Summary 7, N.N.:

- Brookes, M. (2018). Explaining Employer Responses to Transnational Labor Activism: Indonesia and Cambodia Compared. *Comparative Political Studies*, 51(6), 699-729.

Summary 8, N.N.:

- Trampusch, C. (2010): Employers, the State, and the Politics of Institutional Change. Vocational Education and Training in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. *European Journal of Political Research*, 49(4), 545-73.

Parallel Demonstration of Theory & Contrast of Contexts (deadline for summaries June 4, 8am)

Compulsory reading:

- Skocpol, T., Somers, M. (1980): The Uses of Comparative History in Macrosocial Inquiry. *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 22(2), 174-97.

Summary 9, N.N.:

- Trampusch, C. (2010): Co-evolution of Skills and Welfare in Coordinated Market Economies? A Comparative Historical Analysis of Denmark, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. *European Journal of Industrial Relations*, 16(3), 197-220.

Summary 10, N.N.:

- Trampusch, C., Spies, D. (2014): Agricultural Interests and the Origins of Capitalism: A Parallel Comparative History of Germany, Denmark, New Zealand, and the United States. *New Political Economy*, 19(6), 918-942.

Slot 6: June 24, 12am-1.30pm, ZOOM

Analytic Narrative (deadline for summaries June 18, 8am)

Compulsory reading:

- Bates, R.H., Greif, A., Levi, M., Rosenthal, J.L., Weingast, B.R. (eds.) (1998): *Analytic Narratives*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 3-22, 231-38.
- Bates, R.H., Greif, A., Levi, M., Rosenthal, J.L., Weingast, B.R. (2000): Review: The Analytical Narrative Project. *American Political Science Review*, 94(3), 696-702.
- Levi, M. (2004): Analytic Narrative Approach to Puzzles and Problems. In: Shapiro, I., Smith, R.M., Masoud, T.E. (eds): *Problems and Methods in the Study of Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 201-22.

Summary 11, N.N.:

- Bates, R.H. (1998): The International Coffee Organization. In: Bates, R.H., Greif, A., Levi, M., Rosenthal, J.L., Weingast, B.R. (eds.): *Analytic Narratives*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 194-230.

Summary 12, NN.:

- Tsebelis, G. (2016). Lessons from the Greek Crisis. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 23(1), 25-41.

Process Tracing (deadline for summaries June 18, 8am)

Compulsory reading:

- Trampusch C., Palier B. (2016): Between X and Y: How Process Tracing Contributes to Opening the Black Box of Causality. *New Political Economy*, 21(5), 437-454.
- Beach, D., Pedersen, R.B. (2013): *Process-Tracing Methods. Foundations and Guidelines*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press. 9-44, 120-43 (Chapters 2,3,7).

Summary 13, N.N.:

- Carstensen, M., Röper, N. (2019): Invasion from Within: Ideas, Power, and the Transmission of Institutional Logics Between Policy Domains. *Comparative Political Studies* 52(9): 1328-1363.

Summary 14, N.N.:

- Trampusch, C. (2018): Liberal Financial Markets in the Interest of *Staatskredite* – A Process Tracing Study of the Link between Sovereign Debt Policy and the 1908 Bourse Law Reform in the German Empire. *Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte*, 59(1), 105-134.

Slot 7: Thursday July 15 (10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm), ZOOM

Systematic Process Analysis (SPA) (deadline for summaries July 9, 8am)

Compulsory reading:

- Hall, P. (2008): Systematic Process Analysis: When and How to use it. *European Political Science*, 7(3), 304-17.

Summary 15, N.N.:

- Trampusch, C. (2015). The Financialisation of Sovereign Debt: An Institutional Analysis of the Reforms in German Public Debt Management. *German Politics*, 24(2), 119-136.

Summary 16, N.N.:

- Trampusch, C. (2014): Why Preferences and Institutions Change: A Systematic Process Analysis of Credit Rating in Germany. *European Journal of Political Research*, 53(2), 328-344.

Mini-Conference

Discussion of Students' Term Paper Outlines (deadline for summaries July 9, 8am)

General references on methodological contributions, recommended for further reading:

- Beach, Derek/Rasmus B. Pedersen (2013): *Process Tracing Methods – Foundations and Guidelines*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Bennett, Andrew/Checkel, Jeffrey (2015): *Process Tracing. From Metaphor to Analytic Tool*. Cambridge University Press.
- Brady, Henry A. (2008): Causation and Explanation in Social Science. In: Box-Steffensmeier et al. (eds.): *The Oxford Handbook of Political Methodology*. Oxford: OUP, 217-270.
- Brady, Henry A./David Collier (2004): *Rethinking Social Inquiry. Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Ebbinghaus, B. (2005): When Less is More. Selection Problems in Large-N and Small-N Cross-National Comparisons. *International Sociology*, 20(2), 133-52.
- Eckstein, H. [1975] (1992): Case Study and Theory in Political Science. In: *ibid.: Regarding Politics. Essays on Political Theory, Stability, and Change*. Berkeley/Los Angeles: University of California Press, 117-176.
- 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.
- Goertz, Gary (2017): *Multimethod Research, Causal Mechanisms, and Case Studies: An Integrated Approach*. Princeton University Press.
- Haverland, Markus/Joachim Blatter (2012): *Designing Case Studies: Explanatory Approaches in Small-N Research*. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan.
- Hedström, Peter/Petri Ylikoski (2010): Causal Mechanisms in the Social Sciences. In: *Annual Review of Sociology* 36(1). 49-67.
- Jacobs A. M. (2015) Process Tracing and the Effects of Ideas. In: Bennett A and Checkel J T (eds) *Process Tracing. From Metaphor to Analytic Tool*. Cambridge: CUP, pp. 41-73
- King, Gary/Robert Keohane/Sidney Verba (1994): *Designing Social Inquiry. Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Mahoney, James (2001): Beyond Correlational Analysis: Recent Innovations in Theory and Method. *Sociological Forum* 16 (3): 575-593.
- 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.
- Rohlfing, Ingo (2012). *Case studies and Causal Inference: An Integrative Framework*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Seawright, Jason (2016): *Multi-method Social Science: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Tools*. Cambridge University Press.