

Syllabus

Global Governance Networks

M.A.-Seminar
Wednesday 13.30 – 15.00
online

SS 2020

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Overview

Since the 1990s a growing literature in politics and international relations has depicted a shift from government-centered, interstate relations to a more complex system of global governance. The cross-border, cross-sectoral, and multi-stakeholder nature of many global governance initiatives has in turn meant that global governance has become increasingly synonymous with “networked politics.” The goal of these networks is to harness the resources and expertise of NGOs and other civil society organizations in designing, planning, and implementing global policy programs, thereby ensuring more effective and responsive governance.

In our seminar, we seek to clarify the concept of networked governance and probe deeper into the dynamics and consequences of an apparent proliferation of global governance networks. We have three main aims. The first is to bring the theoretical concept of *networked governance* into sharper focus. Despite growing scholarly interest in governance networks, significant ambiguity remains about how to define them, how actors within networks relate to one another, and how different types of global networks differ from one another. We also try to develop a more critical perspective on network performance and outputs. Governance networks are often assumed—on theoretical grounds—to offer innovative and effective solutions to complex global problems. However, it is often unclear what the expected production outputs of these networks are, and attempts to empirically verify and measure network output performance are relatively rare.

In the second part of the seminar, we aim to learn and apply methods of social network analysis. Based on the programs R and visone, we will use real data on governance networks to understand and analyze network properties on the individual, group, and network level.

The third part of the seminar focus on different global governance networks. The students will develop their own expertise in a sectoral governance network and present their preliminary research designs, data, and analysis. The course addresses students who are willing to engage in both the substantial and methodological issues of the literature to be read, and who are prepared to actively participate during the individual sessions.

Course Goals:

On successful completion of this seminar students will be able to:

- describe the historical course of global governance as a phenomenon and a scientific object
- think of global governance as one sub-discipline of International Relations
- identify and understand the different actor groups and relations in global governance networks
- collect own network data
- use the basic concepts and methods of social network analysis
- think reflective and critically about the effectiveness and legitimacy of global governance networks

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES:

Student Responsibilities:

The seminar will meet Wednesdays from 13.30 to 15.00 virtually in XXX. The seminar format means that each individual student is responsible for completing the required readings prior to the class meetings, and for contributing to the discussion of the material. Absence from single sessions has to be communicated via mail in advance. Punctuality is crucial and tardiness will not be tolerated, unless specific and justified reasons are presented to the instructor (such as slightly overlapping class, mobility issues).

You have to register in Ilias to get to the course material and in StudIS to get your grade!

Grades:

The grade consists of three parts, the presentation (30%), the development paper (pass/fail), and the research paper (70%). Students can only be graded if they are registered for the course in StudIS. The examination requirements of the department require the weighted mean of all parts to be at least pass (4.0). Additionally, all parts have to be provided. Individual parts cannot be repeated separately.

(Wortlaut FB: „Eine Prüfungsleistung ist bestanden, wenn der gewichtete Durchschnitt aller Teilleistungen mindestens ausreichend ist und alle Teilleistungen erbracht wurden. Einzelne Teilleistungen können nicht gesondert wiederholt werden, sondern nur im Rahmen der Wiederholung der gesamten Prüfungsleistung“)

Group Presentation:

Every student has to present in a group the topic of one global network session. In these presentations, we are not looking for complete summaries of the readings, but for thoughtful engagement with the problem under discussion. Students choose the topic and the literature to be read. Try to sketch the development and state of the art of the theoretical and empirical aspect of the phenomenon as brief as possible. Your task is to set the ground for a thoughtful discussion of the state of the art of the research and possibilities to enhance present research. Therefore, every student presents an individual research question in this session.

Presentations will be graded on basis of the following criteria:

- Literature incorporated (relevance and precision): 30%
- Theoretical stringency: 30%
- Timing: 10%
- Slides 10 %
- Discussion lead: 20%

Term Paper:

The paper consists of two separate items of work:

First, a short development paper (1 – 2 pages), that takes our readings and discussions as a point of departure and develops a research agenda and/or a preliminary empirical investigation on a topic of your interest (graded pass/fail). This assignment is the first step towards your final paper and is due to June 24th 2020, with a mandatory online consultation with me in the week of June 17th. Topics can thus vary according to individual preferences, but should remain in connection with the class theme, and be chosen in accordance with the instructor.

Key Journals to read for finding a research question:

International Organization
World Politics
Global Networks
International Interactions
Social Networks
Network Science
International Studies Quarterly

The final paper (~4500 words) that should include a theoretical argument and an empirical observation related to it has to be handed in no later than 15.10.2020. The final paper is individual, original, fair, and should demonstrate aptitude to both synthetic and critical reasoning. “Original” means that the paper does not exist prior to its writing by the student and reflects the ideas of its author. This requirement excludes plagiarism, and authorized reproduction of already existing papers. “Fair” means that if you borrow from other people’s work (to a limited extent), you should quote it and acknowledge it appropriately (by the use of quotation marks and in a bibliography). “Critical reasoning” means that you are able to use different sources and put them in perspective in order not to simply repeat what other people say, but are able of highlighting or questioning underlying problems, context and crucial conditions, etc.

Term Papers will be graded on basis of the following criteria:

- Research question (relevance and precision): 10%
- Structure (logical consistency): 10%
- State of the art: 10%
- Argument and analysis: 60%
- Scientific standard: 10%

Deadline for Term Papers: 15.10.2020

Course Plan

I Theories and Preliminaries

29.04. Session 1: Welcome

06.05. Session 2: Global Governance

Coleman, W. D. (2012). Governance and global public policy. In *The Oxford handbook of governance*.

Grigorescu, A. (2020). The Intergovernmental–Nongovernmental Continuum in Global Governance. In *The Ebb and Flow of Global Governance: Intergovernmentalism versus Nongovernmentalism in World Politics* (pp. 1-28). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

13.05. Session 3: International Political Networks

Brandes, U., Robins, G., McCranie, A. N. N., & Wasserman, S. (2013). What is network science? *Network Science*, 1(01), 1-15.

Emilie, M., and Miles Kahler Hafner-Burton. "Network analysis for international relations." *International Organization* 63 (2009): 559-92.

Borgatti, S. P., Mehra, A., Brass, D. J., & Labianca, G. (2009). Network analysis in the social sciences. *Science*, 323(5916), 892-895.

20.05. Session 4: (International) Network Governance

Eilstrup-Sangiovanni, M. (2016). Global governance networks. In *The Oxford handbook of political networks*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Keck, M.E. and K. Sikkink (1999): Transnational Advocacy Networks in International and Regional Politics, *International Social Science Journal* 51, pp. 89-101

Torfinn, J. (2012). Governance networks. In *The Oxford handbook of governance*.

II Network Analysis Sessions

27.05. Session 5: How to do research

Reading: Kellstedt/ Witten (2015): Chapter 1,2,3: The Scientific Study of Politics

Additional Material:

How to read a scientific paper

03.06. Session 6: Network Data and the Programs

10.06. Session 7: Individual and Subgroup Properties

17.06 Session 8: Individual Consultations and Group Consultations

III Students present: Global Governance Networks

24.06. Session 9: Governance Network I

01.07 Session 10: Governance Network II

08.07. Session 11: Governance Network III

15.07: Session 12: Conclusions and Course evaluation