

Summer term 2011
Seminar (Übung) 1400
Comparative Political Economy: Institutional Change in Political Economies
Friday, 12.00 – 13.30 h
Classroom: 203 / 2 Hörsaal des Forschungsinstituts

First session: April 8th, 2011

Course description: The focus in this seminar is on patterns of institutional change in contemporary political economies. In the first part theories of institutional change as well as empirical cases will be discussed. In the second part we will explore how agents of change can stimulate new developments in CMEs and LMEs. In the last part of the seminar we will look at problems of institutional sectors.

Logistics:

Enrolment will take place in the introductory meeting.

Students are expected to:

- * attend the seminar from beginning to end
 - * actively contribute to class discussions
 - * complete assigned readings according to schedule
 - * give a 10 minutes presentation
 - * The seminar is part of the “MA-Modul: Comparative Political Economy”.
- MA students will sit a written exam. The course alone will not prepare for the “Diplomklausur” in Comparative Political Economy. It is only compulsory for MA students who take the course 1399.

Office hour during term:

Monday, 15.00 – 16.00, Gottfried-Keller-Straße 1, 3rd floor, room 5.

All reading assignments are in English. It will be the general classroom language as well. Participants therefore must have sufficient knowledge of the English language to participate. A reader with the required texts will be made available to participants at the chair (Prof. Kaiser).

Course schedule:

1 (08.04.) Course Introduction

Theories of Institutional Change

2 (15.04.) Institutions I

North, Douglass C. (1990): Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Part I: Institutions, pp. 3-35.

3 (29.04.) Institutions II

North, Douglass C. (1990): Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Part I: Institutions, pp. 36-69.

4 (06.05.) Institutional Change

North, Douglass C. (1990): Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Part II: Institutional Change, pp. 73-104.

5 (13.05.) Types of Institutional Change

R: Streeck, Wolfgang and Thelen, Kathleen (2005): Introduction: Institutional Change in Advanced Political Economies, in: Streeck, Wolfgang and Thelen, Kathleen (Eds.): Beyond Continuity. Institutional Change in Advanced Political Economies. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp 1-39.

Agents of Change in a Cross-Country Perspective

6 (20.05.) Firms and Institutional Change

R: Moen, Eli; Lilja, Kari (2005): Change in Coordinated Market Economies: The Case of Nokia and Finland, in: Morgan, Glenn, Whitley, Richard, and Moen Eli (Eds.) 2005: Changing Capitalisms? Internationalization, Institutional Change, and Systems of Economic Organization. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 352-379.

7 (27.05.) Communities, Common Pools and Institutional Change

R: Ostrom, Elinor (1990): Governing the Commons. The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Chapter 4: Analyzing Institutional Change, pp. 103-142.

8 (10.06.) Globalization and Policy Adjustment

Schmidt, Vivien A. (2002): The Futures of European Capitalism. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Chapter 2: The Dynamics and Mechanics of Policy Adjustment in Britain, Germany, and France, pp.59-104

9 (24.06.) Global Change, Economic Concentration and the Rise of the Creative Class

Florida, Richard (2002): The Rise of the Creative Class ...and how it's transforming work, leisure, community, & everyday life. New York: Basic Books, Chapter 3: The Creative Economy, pp. 44-66 and Chapter 4: The Creative Class, pp. 67-82

Institutional Sectors under Pressure

10 (01.07.) Changing Financial Systems

Deeg, Richard (2005): Change from Within: German and Italian Finance in the 1990s, in: Streeck, Wolfgang and Thelen, Kathleen (Eds.): Beyond Continuity. Institutional Change in Advanced Political Economies. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 169-202.

11 (08.07.) An Agenda for Reform in Skill Systems

R: Crouch, Colin; Finegold, David; Sako, Mari (2001): Are Skills the Answer? The Political Economy of Skill Creation in Advanced Industrial Countries. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Chapter 8: Conclusions and Policy Implications pp. 219-250.

12 (15.07.) Institutional Change and Welfare Retrenchment

R: Hacker, Jacob S. (2005): Policy Drift: The Hidden Politics of US Welfare Retrenchment, in: Streeck, Wolfgang and Thelen, Kathleen (Eds.): Beyond Continuity. Institutional Change in Advanced Political Economies. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp 40-82.