

Titel: Introduction into Comparative Government (VR): Institutions and Political Actors.	
Art der Veranstaltung: Proseminar	Angeboten im: Frühjahrssemester 2014

Kursbeschreibung:

Political institutions create incentives that guide the strategic choices of political actors. This seminar introduces participants to the main topics in the theoretical and empirical study of domestic institutions and their effect on the behavior of political actors. The first part of the course deals with the origins of institutions such as parties or electoral systems, and their development over time. In the second part it will be discussed how these institutions shape the behavior of political actors. For example, in how far does the type of the legislature determine the process of government formation? What effect does the electoral system have on party cohesion? Do some institutions promote more government stability than others?

The aim of the course is to enable students to understand and apply theoretical concepts of comparative government and develop an own research question.

Course Assessments: regular attendance, presentation, term paper.