

<b>Titel:</b> Introduction to International Relations: International Institutions and Cooperation.	<b>Verantw.:</b> König, Thomas. Marbach, Moritz <b>Durchf.:</b> Marbach, Moritz
<b>Art der Veranstaltung:</b> Proseminar	<b>Angeboten im:</b> Herbstsemester 2014

### **Kursbeschreibung:**

States cooperate to accomplish common goals and they build international institutions to facilitate cooperation among them. How do international institutions affect cooperation? Does it work? Who wins? Realists argue that international institutions have no independent effect on states' behavior and merely reflect the distribution of power. Institutionalists challenge this view for theoretical and empirical reasons. This seminar introduces students to the debate about the ability of international institutions to facilitate cooperation. We will first look at the main theoretical standpoints in the debate and then various empirical studies aiming to detect causal effects of international institutions on states' behavior.

From a methodological perspective, this seminar focus on the difficulty of identifying causal effects from observational data. Along with the substantive literature, we will discuss how clever research designs and qualitative case studies help political scientists to estimate causal effects (instead of only correlations).

For the term paper, students have to synthesize and reflect on a set of studies or replicate an existing study and critically discuss its methodology. It is expected that participants have taken a first course in data analysis / statistics and consequently are familiar with the simple hypothesis testing and linear regression analysis. The course will be taught in English.