

Titel: Methoden VR I: Methods of Comparative Government: Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives on Government Formation in Multi-Level Settings	Verantw.: Debus, Marc. Gross, Martin. Durchf.: Gross, Martin.
Art der Veranstaltung: Übung	Angeboten im: Herbstsemester 2014

Kursbeschreibung:

The formation of government coalitions is one of the key decisions political actors will have to face. Almost every West and East European country has experienced government coalitions. The understanding of the formation of government coalitions, thus, is crucial for the understanding of today's politics.

The present course introduces research designs and methods to study the formation of government coalitions and aims at enabling the participants to conduct empirical analyses in a quantitative manner with STATA. The course is not only focusing on the actual formation of government coalitions, but also on both the factors determining the duration of coalition negotiations and the factors influencing the length of coalition agreements. Therefore, participants will deal with OLS regressions, conditional logit models, and mixed logit models.

Furthermore, the course aims at enabling the participants to estimate the policy positions of political actors (since they are one of the key factors determining the actions of political actors). Hence, the course will deal with expert surveys as well as human coded and automatic (computer based) methods of content analysis (CMP data; Wordscores). The various

approaches will be compared and discussed with regard to their possible applications.

Throughout the course, we will work with replication material of various empirical studies analysing government formation procedures. Therefore, students should either possess a good knowledge of STATA or be willing to invest effort in building this skill.