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Course title:	Global politics: How to cope with a world in disarray?
Track:	B-Track
Language of instruction:	English
Contact hours:	48 (6 per day)
ECTS-Credits:	4

Course description

This course addresses the new global environment which has been evolving since the end of the East-West conflict. The key features of the emerging context of global politics are: multipolar constellation; decreasing governance capabilities on the side of national governments; fragile structure of global governance; complex interaction patterns between old actors (nation states) and new actors (TNCs; NGOs; sub- and supranational regions, etc.) ; new forms of interaction (networks, flows) and new types of policy-making (externally driven agendas; ad-hocism; mismatches between popular expectations and organizational capabilities).

These new aspects indicate that the traditional ways of political cartography - i.e. conceiving of international relations as policies designed and executed by states and governments, delineated by borders and protected by sovereignty and territoriality - are not sufficiently productive anymore. Classical concepts and terms are still predominant in the public discourse, especially in the media. Yet more and more people interested in global affairs are becoming aware that new ways of political mapping are required.

This is even more relevant as the post Cold-War world is obviously less peaceful, less organized and more complex than expected after the collapse of the old order. The new environment offers challenges and risks as well as opportunities. We will try to develop a preliminary balance sheet.

Over the past ten years, various new approaches have evolved, which promise to offer new and more creative tools for analytically making sense of global patchworks. These new approaches will be presented, analyzed, discussed and applied. Students are expected to contribute their experiences from their respective backgrounds on how the new global landscape affects their personal lives.

Student profile

The course is designed for all students interested in international relations/global politics. Students with a social science background and those without such a background but with a profound interest in global politics are encouraged to register. The course will bring together students with diverse cultural and regional as well as academic backgrounds.

Prerequisites

Please register in advance for your presentation by sending us three topic preferences (for example, my first preference is session 10 "migration", my second preference is...). Please send them to my TAs at shkabpol@zedat.fu-berlin.de until July 24, 2016.

Course requirements

see "Grading"

Grading

reading of required literature (obligatory)
 active participation in the sessions 35%
 presentation (powerpoint) in one session of about 15 min 25%
 minutes of one (another) session of about 600 words 15%
 final take-home paper of about 1000-1500 words 25%

Reading

A reader with the required literature will be provided in the orientation meeting.

Course schedule

Date	Program
Tuesday, July 25, 2017	<p>Session 1: 09:00am – 10:30am Introduction</p> <p>Session 2: 11:00am – 12:30am Reflections: What are the new features and elements of world politics since the early 1990s?</p> <p>Issues: - What categories of actors are now relevant? - On what levels do they act? - What are the most relevant political tasks in the 21st century?</p> <p>Reading requirements: Kaplan (2016), 4-7. Segbers (2015), 1-8. Schulmann (2016).</p> <p>Session 3: 02:00pm – 3:30pm Some Methods: levels of analysis, and variables Van Evera (1997), ch.1</p>
Friday, July 28, 2017	<p>Session 4: 09:00am – 10:30am The end of the state?</p> <p>Issues: - Governance capabilities: What relevant tasks can states still effectively address? What tools are available? - Governance deficiencies: which relevant tasks have to be solved elsewhere? - Erosion of sovereignty</p>

	<p>Reading requirements: Zürn/Leibfried (2005), 1-36. The Economist (March 19, 2011).</p> <p>Session 5: 11:00am – 12:30am New centralities</p> <p>Issues: - What are the new relevant places, centers, nodes? - The search for new and additional centers – Do places still matter in virtual times?</p> <p>Reading requirements: Sassen (1996), 33-52. Pierre/Peters (2000), 75-93.</p> <p>Session 6: 02:00pm – 3:30pm How to write a Research Proposal</p>
<p>Tuesday, August 1, 2017</p>	<p>Session 7: 09:00am – 10:30am Flows – forms and modes of processes in global politics</p> <p>Issues: - Capital, people, content, resource flows - Problems of government control</p> <p>Reading requirements: Castells (1997), ch. 6 (376-428).</p> <p>Session 8: 11:00pm – 12:30pm Scapes: Does it make sense? Intro: groups/discussion</p> <p>Reading requirements: McGrew (2014).</p> <p>Session 9: 02:00pm – 3:30pm Discussion</p>
<p>Friday, August 4, 2017</p>	<p>Session 10: 09:00am – 10:30am Flows and scapes I: Migration</p> <p>Issues: - Causes of migration - Directions of migration - Potential effects of migration and reaction to migration - How do migration and deterritorialization relate?</p> <p>Reading requirements: Massey (2008). Cornelius / Rosenblum (2005). Herman (2006), 192-230.</p>

	<p>Session 11: 11:00am – 12:30am Flows and scapes II: Financial flows</p> <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Causes and effects of the financial crisis 2008/2009 - Patterns of global financial activity <p>Reading requirements: Badcock (2002), ch. 3. Woods (2008). Jickling (2010).</p> <p>Session 12: 02:00pm – 3:30pm Flows and scapes III: Content flows and shifting identities</p> <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Content flows consist of mainly three components: information, communication, and entertainment. – What factors are needed to construct such thing as identity? - Upon what is identity based: values, constitution, the "other"? - Are new forms of identity construction emerging in global times? Which role do social networks play? <p>Reading requirements: Blakley (2001), 1-13. Zook (2001), 1679-1696.</p>
<p>Tuesday, August 8, 2017</p>	<p>Session 13: 09:00am – 10:30am The role of space: territoriality and borders in a globalizing world The role of places, old and new</p> <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In what sense can one speak of borders? Territorial, cultural, economic, religious, time-related... - What functions do borders provide (shelter, differentiation...)? - Mechanisms of dissolution and construction of borders <p>Reading requirements: Segbers (2010). Sheppard (2002). Agnew (2005).</p> <p>Session 14: 11:00am – 12:30am The role of time</p> <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The feeling of acceleration is almost ubiquitous, time spans are becoming commodified. - Phenomena like multitasking and the Silicon Valley human indicate a changing pattern of human (inter)action.

	<p>Reading requirements: Castells (1997), ch. 7, 429-468. Rosa (2003), 3-33.</p> <p>Session 15: 02:00pm – 3:30pm Discussion</p>
<p>Friday, August 11, 2017</p>	<p>Session 16: 09:00am – 10:30am The role of culture</p> <p>Issues: Culture and IR constitute a relatively new phenomenon. - How are they related? - How do scapes fit in?</p> <p>Reading requirements: Murden (2005), 539-553. Appadurai (1997), ch. 2, 27-47.</p> <p>Session 17: 11:00am – 12:30am The role of the media</p> <p>Issues: - The increasing role of mass media in our societies - Mass media influence on political processes</p> <p>Reading requirements: Murray at al. (2002), 1-13. Seib (2005), 1-14.</p> <p>Session 18: 02:00pm – 3:30pm Clash of civilizations</p> <p>Reading requirements: Huntington (1993).</p>
<p>Tuesday, August 15, 2017</p>	<p>Session 19 -21: 09:00 - 3:30 Visit to SWP think tank, questions and answers on current topics</p>
<p>Friday, August 18, 2017</p>	<p>Session 22: 09:00am – 10:30am New styles of policy-making and adhocism</p> <p>Issues: - What are relevant actors and coalitions on the global level? - Which role do NGOs, regions, corporative and trans-governmental actors play? - What governance system is likely to occur?</p> <p>Reading requirements: Mingst (2003), ch. 9, 230-264. Giltin (2002), ch. 2, 71-117.</p>

Session 23: 11:00am – 12:30am
Anarchization, Selective Stabilization?

Issues:

- Anarchy as a possible outcome in world politics, considering the increase in weakly interconnected levels of political action, the multitude of players of different origin and capabilities and a huge variety in terms of resource potentials
- Stability and cooperation in world politics with the help of strategies of not all-encompassing, but selective stabilization?

Reading requirements:

Kaplan (1994), 44-76.

Segbers (2003), 1-28.

Session 24: 2:00pm – 3:30pm**FUBIS Farewell**