



Master's Programme in Political Economy

Module handbook
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Qualification objectives

I. Competences

Subject-specific competences: The Master's Programme focusses on quantitative theoretical and empirical methods that students will use to analyse multitudinous policy fields. Students acquire advanced skills in empirical methods (Module 1). In foundational courses, they gather knowledge about comparative political and international political economy and hone their skills in theorising (Modules 2 and 3). In the advanced seminars (Module 4), students can choose from a large variety of topics relating to various policy fields. Their interest in research will be fostered in those advanced seminars where they are expected to develop their own research project with the help of the tools acquired before. The final semester is reserved for attending the compulsory Master's Colloquium. Here students have the opportunity to improve their presentation techniques and preparing the Master Thesis in close cooperation with two supervisors, an economist and a political scientist (Module 5).

Generic competences: The students are in a position to quickly and independently delve into new subjects. They can apply the methods acquired during the Master's programme. The students are able to present their findings in English. They can enter into a critical dialogue with others about the underlying premises and the methods used to derive the findings.

II. Learning Outcomes

- In written exams, students prove that they have an in-depth understanding of the core concepts in political economy and that they can apply these concepts to solve simple problems in a short time.
- In tutorials, students show that their knowledge and skills enable them to also solve more complex tasks. Students work successfully in teams. They present their results to other students, who discuss these results critically.
- In advanced classes, students write short essays that satisfy scientific standards and reveal a detailed knowledge in special areas.
- In seminars, students show that they can grasp the essence of scientific papers and can organize the insights distilled from the literature in a well-structured manner. They communicate these insights to their fellow students and respond adequately to critical questions from the audience. Moreover, they formulate critical questions about other students' presentations.
- The students write seminar papers on topics of their choice. For this purpose, they draw on the modern scientific literature and relate the findings in a meaningful way. They develop own ideas for small research projects and design approaches to solving these problems.
- In the Master's thesis, students demonstrate their ability to formulate more extensive research questions and to address them with the help of modern tools. They organize the time period of several months for the preparation of the thesis independently and effectively. They are successful in developing a clear and logical structure for an extensive research project. They critically assess the applied methods and premises and derive convincing conclusions.

Introduction

This handbook provides outlines of the modules offered for the Master's Programme in Political Economy. Aside from the Master's thesis, the modules are:

- courses comprising lectures and tutorials
- courses comprising lectures
- seminars

The modules are grouped under the subject area to which they belong:

1. Methods
2. Foundational Courses in Economics
3. Foundational Courses in Political Science
4. Advanced Seminars
5. Master's Thesis

Each module outline gives the following information:

Applicability	Specifies the subject area to which the module belongs.
Credits	Each module has a credit value based on the student's workload required to successfully complete the module, in accordance with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). To complete the Master's programme, 120 credits in total are required and 30 credits per semester should be accumulated. Aside from the Master's thesis (30 credits), students need to obtain 90 credits in taught modules (courses and seminars).
Learning Outcomes	Describe what students should be able to do on completing the module.
Content of Teaching	Describes the topics covered in the module.
Lecturer	The chair offering the module.
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	The type of module (a course comprising lectures, with or without tutorials, or a seminar) and its hours of tuition per week.
Workload	The workload indicates the time students typically need to spend to successfully complete the module.
Recommended Background	Indicates whether specific prior knowledge would be beneficial for completing the module.
Language	The modules of the Master's programme are taught in English.
Frequency Offered	The semester in which the module is taught (winter semester, summer semester or both winter and summer semester).
Recommended Semester	Specifies in which semester it is recommended to take the module.
Compulsory / Optional	Informs whether the module must be taken to complete the Master's programme. It may occur that students can choose one compulsory course between two options, for instance, in Subject Area 1 students can choose between Research Design II and Applied Econometrics; similarly, in Subject Area 2, the choice is between Advanced Microeconomics I and Advanced Macroeconomics I. Additionally students with a bachelor background in Political Science are allowed to choose Microeconomics II (Game theory) instead Advanced Microeconomics I and Advanced Macroeconomics I. And in Subject Area 3, International Political Economy and International Organization and Comparative Political Economy are interchangeable.

Subject Area 1: Methods

Module Code / Title	<i>Research Design I (Research Design and Causal Inference)</i>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 1: Methods
Credits	9
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	7.5%. The exact contribution depends on the weighting according to credits.
Module Grade	Final exam
Learning Outcomes	The course's primary aim is to provide students with the epistemological and methodological tools to critically evaluate existing empirical studies, to identify their inferential weaknesses, and to develop research designs on their own that, to the greatest possible extent, respond to these problems.
Content of Teaching	This course offers an advanced treatment of design issues in political research that aims (as it usually does) at causal inference, i.e., at answering cause-and-effect questions of the general form: is X a cause of Y? If so, how large is the causal effect of X on Y? Starting from an exposition of the counterfactual model of causality, the course introduces the assumptions necessary for identifying causal effects, and shows how these assumptions are justified to varying degrees in different experimental and observational research designs. As to observational studies, the course gives an overview of common and new large-N methods for causal inference, such as regression and panel estimators, matching, instrumental variable and control function approaches. The course also dis-cusses how the principles and methods introduced may be put to good use for small-N studies, in particular when it comes to intentional case selection, and how methods frequently dubbed qualitative (such as process tracing) may help identifying the mechanisms underlying causal effect estimates.
Lecturer	Chair for Survey Research
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Lecture (2 hours), tutorial (2 hours)
Workload	270 hours
Type of Assessment	Exam
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter semester
Recommended Semester	1
Compulsory / Optional	Compulsory

Module Code / Title	<u>Econometrics I</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 1: Methods
Credits	8
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	6.6%. The exact contribution depends on the weighting according to credits.
Module Grade	Final exam, poss. one mid-term exam (20% of final grade)
Learning Outcomes	This course serves as an introductory course to econometrics. It covers the fundamentals of the multiple linear regression model and gives an outlook on time series models and estimators for nonlinear models. The major goal of the class is to provide students with a first equipment to undertake serious empirical work. Thus, there is much emphasis on empirical applications and computer work in the computer lab using R.
Content of Teaching	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Multiple Linear Regression Model: LS-Estimation, Tests, Forecasting, Restricted LS-Estimation 2. Problems of Model Specification: Autocorrelation, Heteroscedasticity, Functional Form 3. Introduction to Dynamic Models 4. Quantal Response Models 5. Instrumental Variables Estimation 6. Computer Tutorials with R
Lecturer	Chair of Economics and Econometrics
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Lecture (3 hours), tutorial (2 hours)
Workload	240 hours
Type of Assessment	Exam
Recommended Background	Introductory linear algebra, calculus, probability and statistics are treated as prerequisites
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Summer semester
Recommended Semester	2
Compulsory / Optional	Compulsory for students with a background in political science

Module Code / Title	<u>Applied Econometrics</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 1: Methods
Credits	6
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	0.5%. The exact contribution depends on the weighting according to credits.
Module Grade	Final exam
Learning Outcomes	<p>It is also designed to train students in the following aspects of empirical economic research:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. learning how to undertake an empirical study 2. data preparation and handling 3. gaining more experience with major econometric software packages (e.g.R, STATA, EViews, Matlab, GRETL)
Content of Teaching	<p>The lecture covers econometric techniques (not covered in Econometrics I) that are useful for empirical economic research. It is intended to acquaint students with important econometric concepts, including econometric models for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • micro level data such as panel data models, instrument variable models, and discrete choice models • time series and forecasting
Lecturer	Chair of Statistics and Econometrics
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Lecture and tutorial
Workload	180 hours
Type of Assessment	Exam
Recommended Background	Econometrics I
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Summer semester
Recommended Semester	3
Compulsory / Optional	Attendance of either Research Design II or Applied Econometrics

Module Code / Title	<u>Research Design II (Statistical Modelling and Inference in Quantitative Research)</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 1: Methods
Credits	9
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	7.5%. The exact contribution depends on the weighting according to credits.
Module Grade	Weekly ungraded quizzes, final exam
Learning Outcomes	This course deals with model-based inference. In particular, it introduces the technique of maximum likelihood estimation, one of the most important and widely used methods of inference. Understanding its basic idea and implementation facilitates a more conscious handling of empirical information, based on statistical models and their assumed stochastic processes. The course will provide theoretical as well as practical knowledge (acquired during supplementary computer lab sessions) on how to use maximum likelihood estimation in applied political science research. Furthermore, the course will highlight important issues in model specification, identification, and interpretation of results.
Content of Teaching	At the end of this course you will have a solid understanding of model-based inference. You will be able to implement maximum likelihood estimators of your own choosing, understand and interpret your estimation results. Furthermore, you will have acquired working knowledge of several key concepts that form the basis of other important statistical approaches such as latent variable modelling, multidimensional scaling, random utility modelling, or Bayesian statistics.
Lecturer	Chair for Survey Research
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Lecture (2 hours), tutorial (2 hours)
Workload	270 hours
Type of Assessment	Exam
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Summer semester
Recommended Semester	2
Compulsory / Optional	Attendance of either Research Design II or Applied Econometrics

Subject Area 2: Foundational Courses in Economics

Module Code / Title	<u><i>Advanced Microeconomics I</i></u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 2: Foundational Courses in Economics
Credits	10
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	8.3%
Module Grade	Final written exam
Learning Outcomes	This course is a rigorous introduction to microeconomic theory. After successful participation in this course, students will be familiar with the basic concepts of microeconomics like utility maximization, decisions under uncertainty, production, perfect and imperfect competition, externalities, Nash equilibrium in games of complete and incomplete information. They have discussed some important applications and will have learned some methods and modelling techniques that are important for other courses.
Content of Teaching	Chapter 1: Preferences, utility, demand, expected utility. Chapter 2: Production, costs, profit-maximization. Chapter 3: Partial equilibrium, welfare Chapter 4: Exchange economy, walrasian equilibrium Chapter 5: Externalities, public goods Chapter 6: Nash equilibrium, Bayesian games, extensive games
Lecturer	Chair of Microeconomic Theory
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Lecture (3 hours), tutorial (2 hours)
Workload	300 hours
Type of Assessment	Exam
Recommended Background	Students should be familiar with mathematical methods as covered in the Prep course "Quantitative methods". Some prior background in microeconomics on the level of Varian, "Intermediate Microeconomics", or Pindyck and Rubinfeld, "Microeconomics", is helpful.
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter semester
Recommended Semester	1
Compulsory / Optional	Attendance of either Advanced Macroeconomics I or Advanced Microeconomics I. Students with a bachelor's degree in political science are allowed to choose Micro II (Game Theory) instead.

Module Code / Title	<u>Advanced Macroeconomics I</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 2: Foundational Courses in Economics
Credits	10
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	8.3%
Module Grade	Final written exam, mandatory weekly homework
Learning Outcomes	<p>On completion of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an understanding of modern macroeconomics and dynamic economic analysis • Develop techniques to solve dynamic optimisation problems • Apply these methods to the study of various macroeconomic issues, such as economic growth, business cycles, monetary policy, consumption and asset prices.
Content of Teaching	<p>The course covers deterministic and stochastic dynamic general equilibrium modelling and their applications to macroeconomic issues. Both analytical results and numerical solution techniques (dynamic programming and log-linearization) are discussed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dynamic programming 2. The neoclassical growth model 3. Uncertainty in dynamic equilibrium models 4. Real business cycle theory 5. Consumption and asset pricing 6. Dynamic models of money.
Lecturer	Chair of International and Monetary Macroeconomics
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Lecture (3 hours), tutorial (2 hours)
Workload	300 hours
Type of Assessment	Exam
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter semester
Recommended Semester	1
Compulsory / Optional	Attendance of either Advanced Macroeconomics I or Advanced Microeconomics I. Students with a bachelor's degree in political science are allowed to choose Microeconomics II (Game Theory) instead.

Module Code / Title	<u>Microeconomics II (Game Theory)</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 2: Foundational Courses in Economics
Credits	9
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	7.5%
Module Grade	Final written exam
Learning Outcomes	
Content of Teaching	In this course, situations of potential conflict are studied; situations in which the outcome depends not just on an individual's decision and chance, but the actions of others as well. The goal of this course is to convey methodological knowledge for the analysis of strategic interactions. We begin by defining games in normal and extensive form and solution concepts. These will be practiced in applications from various areas of economics. Later topics include games of incomplete information with an application to auctions and the study of repeated games and bargaining.
Lecturer	Chair of Microeconomic Theory
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	lecture (4 hours), tutorial (1 hours)
Workload	270 hours
Type of Assessment	Exam
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Summer semester
Recommended Semester	2
Compulsory / Optional	Students with a background in political science are allowed to choose Microeconomic II (Game Theory) instead of Advanced Microeconomics I or Advanced Macroeconomics I

Module Code / Title	<u>Political Economy</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 2: Foundational Courses in Economics
Credits	4 + 4
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	6.6%
Module Grade	Political Economy I: Final written exam Political Economy II: presentation, poster of research idea, participation
Learning Outcomes	On completion of this module, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate a critical understanding of a large variety of issues that arise in the realm of politics • Independently analyse relevant issues • Understand how policy decisions are made, and how they can be improved
Content of Teaching	The course is divided into two parts: Political Economy I: Public Choice The aim is to study the formation of economic policy from a positive - rather than a normative - perspective. This course will cover the main mechanisms through which citizens influence policies, i.e. by voting and by getting organized in interest groups. More specifically, we cover the basic median voter framework, the probabilistic voting model, the citizen-candidate model and some examples of lobbying models. We then look at models concerning the role of politicians. Political Economy II: The political economy of human-capital promoting public goods In this course we will discuss theoretical and empirical political economy studies that aim to explain why the provision of public goods that improve human capital changed over time and differs across countries/regions. In particular, we will study (1) the consequences of franchise extensions, (2) institutional features of democratic regimes that cause variation in public good provision, and (3) the policy preferences of ruling elites in autocratic/weakly-democratic regimes.
Lecturer	Chair of Public Economics
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Lecture (3 hours), tutorial (1 hours)
Workload	240 hours
Type of Assessment	Exam and others
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Summer semester

Recommended Semester	2
Compulsory / Optional	Compulsory

Subject Area 3: Foundational Courses in Political Science

Module Code / Title	<i>International Relations and European Integration</i>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 3: Foundational Courses in Political Economy
Credits	7
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	5.83%
Module Grade	One presentation, two paper reviews (2 pages each), class discussion and final examination
Learning Outcomes	Students will <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • receive a comprehensive overview of the field • be enabled to write literature reviews • learn to read and criticize current research articles in leading journals
Content of Teaching	This course provides an overview of some of the primary theoretical perspectives and analytical approaches for studying international relations in general and regional cooperation and international collaboration in particular. Emphasizing theory, conceptualization and methodology, we will survey the contemporary literature and discuss the main developments in the advanced literature. The first part of this course focuses on international relations theory and conflict research, the second part on regional integration and on decision making within the European Union; the second class will deal with the international political economy and international organization and negotiations, including the United Nations and its organizations.
Lecturer	Chair of International Politics
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Seminar (2 hours)
Workload	210 hours
Type of Assessment	Essays, presentation, participation, exam
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter semester
Recommended Semester	1
Compulsory / Optional	Compulsory

Module Code / Title	<u>Comparative Public Policy and Politics</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 3: Foundational Courses in Political Economy
Credits	7
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	5.83%
Module Grade	Written assignments (one research paper or essay), presentation, participation in class
Learning Outcomes	<p>Students will gain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a deep knowledge of classical and contemporary debates in the field of comparative politics and policy analysis • improve presentation, reading and writing skills • and further develop critical thinking and applications of the scientific method in the social sciences • analytical tools and concepts of comparative politics for understanding how public policies are generated and changed
Content of Teaching	<p>This course provides an overview of current developments in comparative public policy and politics. It surveys a variety of theoretical literatures (including works on preference formation, interest articulation, political parties, and institutions) that seek to explain public policy in a comparative manner. The course explores substantive issues in public policy of industrialized democracies with material written mostly by political scientists, but also economists, sociologists, and psychologists. Issues of research design and the appropriateness of social inquiry figure prominently in the discussions. The course has two fundamental aims. The first is to assess the analytical tools and concepts of comparative politics for understanding how public policies are generated and changed. The second is to explore areas of comparative public policy and politics that have seen interesting developments in the last twenty years.</p>
Lecturer	Chair for Comparative Politics
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Seminar (2 hours)
Workload	210 hours
Type of Assessment	Essay, presentation, participation
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter semester
Recommended Semester	1
Compulsory / Optional	Compulsory

Module Code / Title	<u>International Political Economy and International Organization</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 3: Foundational Courses in Political Economy
Credits	7
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	5.83%
Module Grade	Two review essays (8 pages) or a research paper (15 pages) (60%), one presentation (20%), class participation (20%).
Learning Outcomes	The students are expected to understand cutting-edge research in two growing subfields of international relations and to analyse key political developments at the intersection of the international economy and international politics systematically.
Content of Teaching	International Political Economy and International Organization are two of the main subfields in International Relations. They study how states, international institutions and markets affect the development of states and how states respond to major economic and political challenges. IPE particularly analyzes the interactions of governments, businesses, and ordinary people, while IO deals with the role of international institutions in addressing these and other concerns. This seminar builds on the Basic Seminar IREI (taught in the Winter term) and introduces participants to the rich literature on IPE and international governance as the eroding sovereignty of nation-states in an interdependent world is accompanied by calls for stronger international institutions. The seminar will survey the literature in international political economy with a special emphasis on economic development and interdependence. We will also assess the impact that economic downturns as well as financial crises have and focus on other regional and global organizations, such as the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization.
Lecturer	Chair of International Politics
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Seminar (2 hours)
Workload	210 hours
Type of Assessment	Essays, presentation, participation
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Summer semester
Recommended Semester	2
Compulsory / Optional	Attendance of either International Political Economy and International Organization or Comparative Political Economy

Module Code / Title	<p><u>Comparative Political Economy</u></p> <p>Please note: During the summer semester 2019 and summer semester 2020 Comparative Political Economy was replaced by the following alternative seminars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and Impact Evaluation • Financing Development • Field Experiments in Political Economy
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 3: Foundational Courses in Political Economy
Credits	7
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	5.83%
Module Grade	Reading Response and Participation (20%), Paper Presentation (10%), poss. Midterm (20%), Final Paper (50%)
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A broad overview of the canonical theories in comparative political economy. • An appreciation of the importance of institutions • The ability to critically evaluate the policy relevance and implications of cutting-edge academic research. • Understanding of the key ingredients of research, i.e., theory building, measurement, causal identification, and estimation.
Content of Teaching	<p>This seminar provides an introduction to core debates and cutting edge contemporary research in comparative political economy. We first ask how states and, in particular, democracies come into being, and explore their effects on economic growth. Subsequently, we examine how governments obtain and redistribute resources. Next, we explore how the macroeconomy affects the state. We conclude by asking why core democratic institutions go wrong and what effects this has for economic outcomes. The seminar adopts a firmly comparative perspective, drawing on examples from developed and developing countries. Students are exposed to canonical theoretical approaches, often drawing on game-theoretic models. In addition to observational empirical analyses, students will also be familiarized with innovative techniques to drawing causal inferences.</p>
Lecturer	Department of Politics and Public Administration
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Seminar (2 hours)
Workload	210 hours
Type of Assessment	Reading Response, Participation, Presentation, final Paper
Recommended Background	
Language	English

Frequency Offered	Summer semester
Recommended Semester	2
Compulsory / Optional	Attendance of either International Political Economy and International Organization or Comparative Political Economy

Subject Area 4: Advanced Seminars

In Subject Area 4, students have to select three seminars. One seminar must be from the Department of Politics and Public Administration (7 ECTS) and one from the Department of Economics (6 ECTS). The information below only describes the general outline of a seminar at the two participating departments. The choice of master seminars varies each semester.

Module Code / Title	<u>Seminar from the Department of Economics</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 4: Advanced Seminars
Credits	6
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	5%. The exact contribution depends on the weighting according to credits.
Module Grade	Based on an oral presentation and a seminar paper
Learning Outcomes	On completion of this module, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an independent study of a specific economic method or subject matter. • Critically read and understand recent research literature in the field of economics.
Content of Teaching	In-depth treatment of a specific economic method or subject matter.
Lecturer	Professors of the Department of Economics
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Seminar (2 hours)
Workload	180 hours
Type of Assessment	Seminar paper, presentation
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter or summer semester
Recommended Semester	2 or 3
Compulsory / Optional	One seminar at the Department of Economics is compulsory

Module Code / Title	<u><i>Seminar from the Department of Politics and Public Administration</i></u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 4: Advanced Seminars
Credits	7
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	5,8%. The exact contribution depends on the weighting according to credits.
Module Grade	Based on an oral presentation and a seminar paper, possibly on participation
Learning Outcomes	On completion of this module, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an independent study of a specific political or administrative method or subject matter. • Critically read and understand recent research literature in the field of politics or administration.
Content of Teaching	In-depth treatment of a specific political or administrative method or subject matter. Students are allowed to choose between all provided courses of the Master's Module "Applied Methods and Theories" (Master's Programme in Political and Administrative Science). However, students are advised to choose courses of the Program "Comparative Politics and Policy Analysis" or the Program "International Relations and European Integration".
Lecturer	Professors of the Department of Politics and Public Administration
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Seminar (2 hours)
Workload	210 hours
Type of Assessment	Based on an oral presentation and a seminar paper, possibly on participation
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter or summer semester
Recommended Semester	2 or 3
Compulsory / Optional	One seminar at the Department of Politics and Public Administration is compulsory

Subject Area 5: Master's Thesis

Module Code / Title	<u><i>MA Colloquium</i></u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Applicability	Subject Area 1: Methods
Credits	5
Duration	1 semester
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	pass or fail
Module Grade	Oral presentation
Learning Outcomes	Students have the opportunity to improve their presentation techniques. Furthermore, an in-depth treatment of political and economic theories and methods is carried out using the example of Master's candidates' concrete projects.
Content of Teaching	The Master's candidates' mandatory participation in appropriate colloquia conduces to the intensive preparation and supervision of the Master's Thesis. In this course, question, research design and approach of every assignment are discussed with the supervisor and other candidates.
Lecturer	Professors of the respective Department (assessor of the candidate's master's thesis)
Teaching Methods / Hours per Week	Depending on the department
Workload	150 hours
Type of Assessment	Oral presentation
Recommended Background	
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter and summer semester
Recommended Semester	4
Compulsory / Optional	Compulsory

Module Code / Title	<u>Master's Thesis</u>
Programme of Study	MSc in Political Economy
Credits	30 ECTS
Duration	4 months
Module Contribution to the Final Grade	25%
Module Grade	The average grade of the two assessments
Learning Outcomes	<p>On completion of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a research proposal • Synthesise knowledge and skills previously acquired and applied to an in-depth study • Establish links between theory and methods within their area of study • Present the findings of their research in a coherent and logically argued piece of writing that demonstrates competence in research and the ability to operate independently.
Content	The aim of the Master's thesis is to demonstrate that the student is in a position to independently analyse and assess a topic from the field of political economy, within a prescribed time period and using scientifically recognised methods. Students select their own topic for the thesis in consultation with their supervisor.
Supervisor	Each student selects a supervisor (assessor) for the thesis, who can be a professor or junior professor of the Department of Economics or the Department of Politics and Public Administration. One of the assessors from candidates with a bachelor's degree in political science must be the Department of Economics. One of the assessors from candidates with a bachelor's degree in economics must be from the Department of Politics and Public Administration.
Teaching Methods	The theoretical and methodological background knowledge for conducting a thesis is acquired through the interdisciplinary selection of courses of the Master's programme. Practise in the completion of research papers is obtained in the seminars of the Master's programme.
Workload	900 hours
Type of Assessment	Master's thesis
Recommended Background	The relevant courses and seminars of the Master's programme
Language	English
Frequency Offered	Winter and summer semester
Recommended Semester	4
Compulsory / Optional	compulsory