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Certificate “Civic Engagement”

Course Catalog – Summer Term 2021

(Micro Program)

Division III – Academic Affairs
Section 4 – Transdisciplinary Course Program and Career Service



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IMPORTANT NOTES

About the Certificate “Civic Engagement”

Promoting civic engagement plays an important role at the University of Tübingen as part of its Third Mission. By offering the certificate program “Civic Engagement”, we want to encourage our students to actively assume responsibility in society while critically reflecting their volunteering experiences. Therefore, the certificate program consists of three different units:

Unit 1 – Turn Knowledge into Action (Attending a Service-Learning course)

The first unit can be completed by attending a Service-Learning course in the Transdisciplinary Course Program. The courses concerned are regularly marked as such in the course description.

Unit 2 – Action (Record of civic engagement)

The second unit can be organized in a variety of ways by the students and depends greatly on the individual interest. For example, students can attend one of our Mentoring and buddy programs or volunteer in student initiatives. Find out more under: <https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/54148>

Unit 3 – Turn Action into Knowledge (Academic feedback)

The third unit can be chosen freely, as long as the connection to one's engagement (Unit 2) is clear. For this reason, we only selected a few courses to show the different perspectives the Transdisciplinary Course Program offers, in the following.

If you are interested in more information on the regular [Transdisciplinary Course Program \(PDF\)](#), please visit our website: <https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/2830>

Registration Period and More Information

For the summer term 2021, the registration period will be from February 27 until March 14. After the ensuing placement procedure, free places in courses will again be open for registration from April 19 until May 2.

CIVIS students may register via the central [alma platform](#) of the University of Tübingen.

If CIVIS students have difficulties registering with alma, please reach out to:

Ms Charoula Fotiadou, charoula.fotiadou@uni-tuebingen.de.

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Forms of engagement of newcomers in Reutlingen



Migration as a global phenomenon refers to the movement of people across the borders of nation states, which brings geographically distant regions into contact with each other and has consequences both for the regions of origin and arrival as well as intermediate stops. In this seminar we will look at the consequences of international migration at Reutlingen, a German municipality.

The focus will be on the contributions of newcomers to shape their new city: their source of information and the ways they identify with Reutlingen, as well as their forms of engagement, with special attention to political participation. We will discuss to what extent newcomers' migration history and the existence of migrant organizations in Reutlingen influence the way newcomers feel motivated to participate actively in shaping Reutlingen. In order to investigate these questions, we will carry out guideline-based group discussions in German and in the native languages of the migrant population of Reutlingen.

This seminar is organized in partnership with the Integration Council Reutlingen. The results of the student research will be presented to the Integration Council amongst others in the final session.

Service Learning, research-based learning, student presentations, discussions

TEACHING-METHODS

QUALIFICATION OBJECTIVE

- Basic knowledge on engagement of newcomers in cities, independently of their migration history or background
- Basic skills on qualitative research, such as developing a research design which considers the different stakeholder perspectives
- Basic skills in discussing research results with actors beyond the university
- A sensitization in the area of migration, integration and participation in city life.

LITERATURE

Will be announced at the course

PREREQUISITES

Students of all semesters and disciplines are welcome. Course language is English, the presentation to the Integration Council will be in German. Knowledge of Turkish, Romanian, Greek, Croatian, Polish, Russian, Arabic, Serbian, Vietnamese, etc. can be an advantage, but is not required.

REQUIREMENTS

Attendance, active participation in discussions and group work, short presentations

CREDIT POINTS

6

TIME

Tuesdays, 4 pm – details online via ALMA

LOCATION

Online – details will be announced online via ALMA

PARTICIPANTS

30

MAX.

REGISTRATION

Online via ALMA

RECOMMENDATION

This course is creditable for the first unit "Service-Learning Course" of the **certificate Civic Engagement**.

1DI403 | Common Ground despite Controversy: Creating a Digital Network

CONRAD BORCHERS, SIRIUS NOSKE | UNIVERSITY OF TÜBINGEN & JONAS KIEBLING | GOETHE UNIVERSITY FRANKFURT

CONTENTS



In a two-day seminar, participants will challenge their pre-existing ideas on what effective communication between different opinions means. Our inquiry will be guided by differing perspectives towards the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. In utilizing the lens of Systems Thinking and communication theories, we identify common practices and obstacles of communication, with special focus on the digital world. The goal of this service-learning workshop is to transfer this theoretical lens to approach new avenues of communication that enable productive discussion between different opinions under a common set of community rules and values. Specifically, we aim at building a new online community in which controversies can be discussed by everyone - potentially building new common ground. Ultimately, we want to offer insight into differing opinions and their discussion can actually foster change in society for greater good.

LITERATURE

To be announced via the project page civis.cborchers.com, for a rough delineation see "Prerequisites".

TEACHING

METHODS

QUALIFICATION

OBJECTIVE

Group-discussions, breakout sessions, theoretical input, creative work phases

Designing and building a digital community for productive discussion between different opinions; gaining theoretical understanding of systems thinking; achieving connection between theoretical and practical thinking; discussing improvements for the communication between conflicting parties in a digital and non-digital realm

PREREQUISITES

While no prior knowledge is required for successful participation, we encourage participants to inquire and reflect about some of the following terms, either via the internet or literature: "Systems thinking", "adaptive content", "filter bubbles", "symbolic interactionism", "digital self-determination", "and constructivism", "communication accommodation theory".

TARGET GROUP

All students, especially students interested in analysing existing issues and potentials in society and engaging in new avenues of addressing them.

REQUIREMENTS

Active participation, ungraded assignments, ungraded supplementary work on practical implementation between the main seminar and the follow-up meeting

CREDIT POINTS

1 (without grade)

TIME & LOCATION

Seminar: 24th-25th of July 2021, 09:00-18:00, online

Mandatory follow-up meeting: 31st July, 2021, 15:00-18:00, online

Will also be announced on ALMA.

PARTICIPANTS MAX.

30

REGISTRATION

Online via ALMA

RECOMMENDATION

This course is creditable for the third unit "*Academic Feedback*" of the **certificate Civic Engagement**.

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In this seminar we will have a closer look at the current changes of international economic relations on a global scale. We will learn to analyse them by applying the methods and theoretical insights of a specific theoretical approach called Global Political Economy. We will acquire knowledge of issues and dimensions this perspective is capable to integrate in order to explain geo-political and -economic events and developments. Furthermore, we will have a look at how to see those developments, i.e. which indicators are being seen as relevant to get a grip on those rather abstract topics. By discussing the literature, building expert groups which will consist of the seminar's participants and by forming discussion panels we will deepen our understanding and apply our knowledge by using arguments in defending or criticizing several aspects of world economy developments. Thus, we will gain a first overview of how events at such a high and distant level have an immediate and profound effect on the lives of billions of people e.g. in their ways of social reproduction and their decision to migrate. At the end, we will discuss what effects and changes we can expect due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

LITERATURE

Jäger, J. et al. (2016): Critical International Political Economy and Method, in: Cafruny, A. et al. (eds.) The Palgrave Handbook of Critical Political Economy, London, pp.101-118.
 Gill, S. R. (2016): Critical Global Political Economy and the Global Organic Crisis in: *ibid.*, pp. 29-48.
 Overbeek, H. (2016): Globalizing China: A Critical Political Economy Perspective on China's Rise in: *ibid.*, pp. 309-321.
 Van der Pijl, K. (2009): From Classical to Global Political Economy, in: Id. A Survey of Global Political Economy, University of Sussex. Versão 2, pp.1-28.
 Bakker, I. (2003): Neo-liberal Governance and the Reprivatization of Social Reproduction: Social Provisioning and Shifting Gender Orders in: Bakker, I./Gill, S. (eds.) Power, Production and Social Reproduction – Human In/security in the Global Political Economy, Basingstoke/New York, pp. 66-82.
 Persaud, R. B. (2003): Power, Production and Racialization in Global Labor Recruitment and Supply in: *ibid.*, pp. 124-145.
 Panitch, L. & Gindin, S. (2012): The DNA of American Capitalism in: Id. The Making Of Global Capitalism, London, pp. 25-43.
 Suwandi, I. (2019): Labor Value Commodity Chains Power and Class Relations in the World Economy in: Id. Value Chains – The New Economic Imperialism, New York, pp. 42-67.
 Poulantzas, N. (2008): Internationalization of Capitalist Relations and the Nation-State in: Martin, J. (ed.) The Poulantzas Reader, London, pp. 220-257.
 Jessop, B. (2018): The World Market, 'North-South' Relations, and Neoliberalism in: Alternate Routes: A Journal of Critical Social Research. 29, pp. 207-228.
 Felbermeyr, G. & Görg, H. (2020): Implications of Covid-19 for Globalization in: G. Felbermeyr (ed.) The world economy after the coronavirus shock, Kieler Beiträge zur Wirtschaftspolitik, No. 26, pp. 3-14.

TEACHING METHODS

Participative elaboration of issues by reading, discussing and re-enacting, expert group discussions, Panel group exchange of opinions, finding and understanding economic indicators

QUALIFICATION OBJECTIVE

Understanding of international economic relations and their political regulation; knowledge of different political economic theoretical approaches; learning to follow recent global political economic developments methodologically & to read relevant statistical indicators and to contextualise them; applying this knowledge in discussions and opinion exchange; acquiring competences in political judgment formulation on current issues

PREREQUISITES

Interest in the subject and reading of the literature

TARGET GROUP

All students

REQUIREMENTS

Active participation, term paper (3500 words)

CREDIT POINTS

3

TIME & LOCATION

Will be announced on ALMA

PARTICIPANTS MAX.

20

REGISTRATION

Online via ALMA

RECOMMENDATION

This course is creditable for the third unit "Academic Feedback" of the **certificate Civic Engagement**.

1WI401 | Transnational Labor Governance and the Digital Transformation

PATRICK WITZAK M.A. SOCIOLOGY | UNIVERSITY OF DUISBURG-ESSEN

CONTENTS



The social phenomenon of globalization connects the living spaces of people and opens up, among other things, the chance to renegotiate or establish new economic, social, political and cultural conditions. This also includes the regulation of labor that contains new risks due to the emergence of new transnational spaces as well as it reveals diverse opportunities. For citizens, the Western welfare state is a geographical space for the granting of social rights. However, these national social spaces are eroding and new, partly supranational alliances, cross-border regions, transnational value chains and digital spaces are forming in which traditional national social rights are partly being undermined or renegotiated. Within this field of conflict between migration, labor, digitization, and regulation, it is of particular interest to what extent actors build, negotiate, and reinforce diverse rules. Cross-border labor is thus not only shaped by country-specific migration and labor market regimes. Supra- and international actors such as the ILO, the European Union, international trade union federations, NGOs and corporations are also playing an increasingly important role in regulating access to specific regions, countries and labor markets by negotiating minimum standards for decent work, in tackling forced labor, human trafficking and regulating digital forms of work.

LITERATURE

Basic texts from textbooks and anthologies as well as exemplary selected empirical studies will be announced later in a syllabus. You can download this literature via your university VPN access.

TEACHING

METHODS

- Presentations
- Reading Reports
- Online search
- Debates

Oral presentations and written materials are in English, but occasional use of German language is possible and recommended when it deserves clarity.

QUALIFICATION

OBJECTIVE

In this seminar, you will learn about different forms of transnational labor as well as related regulatory issues and actors by means of empirical studies and basic theories. In addition, we will critically discuss central theories and concepts with regard to the insights that they can bring to the study of transnational labor and its regulation. On this basis, you will learn to formulate your own arguments to express your knowledge, first in writing and then verbally. None.

PREREQUISITES

TARGET GROUP

All students.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Do all assigned mandatory readings
2. Fill in a reading report (one page) for two sessions
3. Give a presentation
4. Active participation in the online seminar

CREDIT POINTS

3

TIME & LOCATION

Will be announced on ALMA

PARTICIPANTS MAX.

30

REGISTRATION

Online via ALMA

RECOMMENDATION

This course is creditable for the third unit “Academic Feedback” of the **certificate Civic Engagement**.

Course Dates

Course ID	Course Dates	Online / In person	Unit
1PGE298	April 20 – September 30, 2021: 16.00 – 18.00 (Tuesdays)	Online	1
1DI403	July 24, 2021: 09.00 – 18.00 July 25, 2021: 09.00 – 18.00 July 31, 2021: 15.00 – 18.00	Online	3
1WI203	July 9 – July 11, 2021: 13.00 – 17.00	Online	3
1WI401	June 25, 2021: 14.00 – 16.00 July 23, 2021: 14.00 – 18.00 July 24, 2021: 08.00 – 16.00 July 25, 2021: 08.00 – 16.00	Online	3