VL Introduction into the Political System of FRG: The Political System of Germany (Lecture)

EN

Course type: Lecture

ECTS: 6.0

Course suitable for: Bachelor

Language of instruction: English

Credit hours1: 2

Attendance: Live & on-campus

Registration procedure:

Exchange students from all departments are welcome to register for this course by using Portal2. We recommend registration before lecture period starts, since this is helpful for gaining access to the reading materials.

1st year course. No prerequisites.

Examination achievement:

Written exam:

The written examination will cover all topics of the sessions, including the presented slides and the articles listed. Open questions have to be answered shortly.

Exam Date: 14.12.2024

Resit Exam Date: tba

Instructor(s):

Prof. Dr. Thomas König

Date(s):

Monday (weekly) 02.09.2024 – 02.12.2024 08:30 – 10:00 A 001 Großer Hörsaal; B 6, 23–25 Bauteil A

Description:

The Political System of Germany

This lecture introduces into the political system of Germany and the scholarly literature about it. This literature provides different perspectives, ranging from game-theoretical illustrations of major turning points in the history of the German political system, the constitutional foundations, the vertical and horizontal separation of powers to the comparative empirical evaluation of basic political features and developments. To understand the political system of Germany, students should have interest in analytical theory and methodology. They should meet three conditions:

• Firstly, knowledge of the basic literature in comparative politics;

• Secondly, knowledge of the historical principles and features of the BRD;

• Thirdly, high interest political science research, which goes beyond German political narratives

As an accompanying reading, I recommend reading the book by Grotz, Florian and Wolfgang Schroeder. 2023. The Political System of Germany, Palgrave Macmillan/Springer.

The lecture is interactive, which means that participants can ask questions. To foster interactive communication, the slides of the lecture will be made available before the session.

Aims:

• Ability to understand and evaluate political science literature on the political system of Germany;

• Excellent knowledge of the constitutional foundations and separation of powers in the political system of Germany;

• Understanding of comparative evaluations of the political system of Germany;

Attendance: Preparation of the listed chapters and articles for active participation in the discussions.

Late Work Policy: Students need to start early with the preparation of the readings, so that they are able to discuss the content. However, should you find yourself in a situation which hinders you from preparing, let me know as soon as you can and not on the day the task is due or afterwards. We will work together to come up with a solution.

Technology Policy: As you surely know, cell phones and computers tend to obstruct attention when used inappropriately. I suggest responsibly using technology during the sessions. Hence, your laptop/tablet should only be used for note-taking and retrieving articles where necessary.

Students with Disabilities or Chronic Illnesses: Contact me, if you need any special support. Please do so early in order to ensure that the appropriate arrangements can be made early on.

Cheating and Plagiarism: In science, plagiarism is sanctioned as it violates property rights. Plagiarising will thus lead to failing the course.