HS Selected Topics in International Relations: How to Lose Power? Revolutions, Coups, and Other Threats (Seminar (Advanced Level))

EN

Course type: Seminar (Advanced Level)

ECTS: 6

Course suitable for: Bachelor

Language of instruction: English

Credit hours1: 2

Attendance: Live & on-campus

Examination achievement: Research Paper (graded, 100%)

Instructor(s): Marie-Therese Meye

Date(s):

Thursday (weekly) 13.02.2025 – 29.05.2025 10:15 – 11:45 B 143 Seminarraum; A 5, 6 Bauteil B

Description:

How do governments lose power? In democracies, elections often decide a government’s fate, but this is rarely the case for authoritarian regimes, where power shifts are frequently irregular. This course examines both theoretical and empirical (primarily quantitative) literature that explores these non-constitutional pathways to losing power—such as coups, popular uprisings, foreign interventions, and assassinations. While the seminar’s primary goal is to equip students to analyze these dynamics empirically, we will also delve into detailed case studies of how dictators have lost power. Prior knowledge of quantitative methods is required for this course.