

Course program
(version of 07 November 2013)
“SPEA on the Rhine”
(May 13 – June 13, 2014)

**"Public Policy and Administration
in Germany, the European Union,
and the United States"**

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1. Program overview

For the fifth time, Speyer University and SPEA offer a joint summer program on comparative public policy and administration in Germany, the European Union, and the United States. Five seminars will provide an overview of major problems of public management, European economic integration, decision-making in the EU, comparative local government, and US and EU constitutional law. The program is distinctively interdisciplinary as the instructors have backgrounds in political science, economics and law.

Speyer University (German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer) is Germany's centre of competence for administrative sciences. Its teaching and research programs are characterized by an interdisciplinary approach and close relations to management problems and institutions in the public and private sectors.

The program will provide students with a unique opportunity to study problems of public policy and administration in an interdisciplinary and international context. As it is part of the regular Speyer curriculum, US and other international students will learn side by side with German students.

Further highlights of the program will be excursions to the European Central Bank and Stock Exchange in Frankfurt, to the picturesque city of Heidelberg, to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg (France) and to the EU institutions in Brussels (3-day trip).

SPEA graduate students and select undergraduates will participate in the program as part of their regular program in public administration. SPEA students are able to receive up to 6 credit points. Further information on credits and requirements can be found in section 4.

The program is open to further international students and students enrolled at Speyer University. They are welcome to participate in one or more seminars of the program. Details on their credits and requirements can also be found in section 4.

2. Seminars and faculty

The program covers core issues of public policy and public administration in the US, the EU and Germany. There are five seminars taught by experts in their respective fields:

- A comparative perspective on public administration in the European Union, Germany, and the US (Bauer/Resh)
- European economic integration (Knorr)
- Comparative local government (Jäkel)
- US and European constitutional law from a comparative perspective – cases (Sommermann)
- Turkey and the European Union (Bauer/Schomaker/Lehrke)

Professor Michael W. Bauer is Jean Monnet Professor of the European Union and holds the Chair of Comparative Public Administration and Policy Analysis at the German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer. He is an expert on comparative public administration, EU Policy-Making and multi-level governance.

Professor William G. Resh is Assistant Professor at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University. He is an expert on public management.

Tim Jäkel, PhD, is a research associate at the German Research Institute for Public Administration Speyer. He is an expert on public management and public finance.

Professor Andreas Knorr holds the Chair of Economics (National and International Economic Policy) at the German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer. He is an expert on European economic integration.

Jesse Lehrke, PhD, is a research fellow at the German Research Institute for Public Administration Speyer. He is an expert on security issues.

Rahel Schomaker, PhD, is a research fellow at the German Research Institute for Public Administration Speyer. She is an expert on issues of international economic governance.

Professor Karl-Peter Sommermann holds the Chair of Public Law, Political Theory and Comparative Law at the German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer. He is an expert on comparative law and political theory.

Please see the detailed overview of seminars in section 7.

3. Excursions

The program includes an extensive excursion program. Trips are planned to:

- the City of Speyer,
- the City of Heidelberg,
- the European Central Bank and Frankfurt Stock Exchange in Frankfurt am Main,
- the Council of Europe in Strasbourg and the City of Strasbourg, France,
- the institutions of the European Union (Parliament, Commission, Council, Committee of the Regions and selected lobby groups) in Brussels, Belgium (3-day-excursion).

For SPEA students, the costs of the excursions are covered by the tuition fee. For German and international students, prices are available upon request.

The detailed program for the Brussels excursion can be found at the end of this document. Please be aware that taking part in this excursion involves preparing a short report on one of the EU institutions beforehand.

4. Credits and requirements

All students are advised to consult the appendix for the formal paper and presentation requirements. German and international students should also read through the following section that includes relevant information for every participant.

4.1 SPEA students

Course credits are based on regular Speyer University courses and grading standards and then converted to SPEA graduate course credit: V482/V582 (4 – 6 cr.) – "Topics in Public Affairs: Public Policy and Administration in the European Union, Germany, and the United States." Students can opt for either six or four credits. The requirements are:

Six credits	Four credits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active participation in all five seminars (A-E)• Paper & oral presentation in seminar A• Paper & oral presentation in Seminar B• Reading assignment in Seminar C• Reading assignment in Seminar D• Report on one EU institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active participation in all five seminars (A-E)• Paper & oral presentation in seminar A• Reading assignment in Seminar B• Reading assignment in Seminar C• Report on one EU institution

Please note: Students are free to choose where to write papers and where to fulfill the reading assignments. Their preferences will be inquired in March 2014.

Detailed requirements (see also the appendix):

- Seminar papers should be confined to one specific research question (10-15 pages).
- Oral presentations should give a general overview of the (paper) topic (15-20 min) – in the seminar on Turkey and the European Union, this presentation takes the form of a position paper (see below)
- Reading assignments are brief reports on a scientific article or book chapter, the presentations can be given orally (5-10 min) or in writing (1-2 pages), to be agreed with the respective instructors.
- The report constitutes a concise introduction to the respective EU institution (2-3 pages), prepared by a group of 3-4 students and distributed before the Brussels excursion.

Please note that the first four to six topics in each seminar can be assigned prior to the program. In this case students should contact the instructor(s) directly via e-mail in the course of April 2014. The remaining topics of each seminar will be assigned in the first session of each seminar. After the assignment of the topics, all students are requested to

make appointments with the instructor(s) to discuss the oral presentation of the topic and the focus of the seminar paper. Reading assignments are also assigned by the instructor(s) in the first session.

Deadlines and grading:

The papers have to be submitted to the respective instructor(s) not later than **Tuesday, July 15, 2014**. Note: this is a real deadline. In case the papers are turned in late, we will apply the rule of "late paper submission": The grade will be reduced by 5 % for every two days it is late. Papers will not be admitted anymore after **July 24, 2014**.

The grading scale ranges from "very good" (16-18 points), "good" (13-15 points), "fully satisfactory" (10-12 points); "satisfactory" (7-9 points), "sufficient" (4-6 points), "deficient" (1-3 points) to "insufficient" (0 points). These grades will be translated into SPEA letter grades.

4.2 German and international students

Students who are enrolled at Speyer University are welcome to participate in the program or in one or more seminars of the program as part of their regular curriculum. Students have to meet the normal seminar requirements of Speyer University: Submission of a paper and an oral presentation of the paper, both in English.

The international students' home universities decide whether and to what extent they award credits for the completed courses in the context of their academic programs. The requirements for SPEA students may provide orientation (see above). All international students will receive a transcript of records after the program.

4.3 Certificate of Participation

Speyer University and SPEA also offer a Certificate of Participation to SPEA students who have earned 4-6 credits and to those Speyer University (German and international) students who have participated in all five seminars. In the latter case, Speyer University students have to give a paper and oral presentation in a seminar of their choice.

Furthermore, presentations of assigned readings are required in two seminars of students' choice where papers are not written. In the other two seminars oral participation is sufficient.

5. Logistical information

5.1 Room and board

Accommodation on campus in double-bedrooms with German students will be organized by Speyer University.

The room rent flat rate for the whole program period is the special price of € 190,-/student.

Students have access to the library and the computer rooms. Meals are available at a cafeteria (“Taberna”) on campus. More information will be made available to participants in due time.

5.2 Orientation meeting at SPEA (for SPEA students)

Professor Resh will conduct orientation meetings for SPEA students in fall 2013 and in early 2014 to prepare students interested in the program.

5.3 Support services

Professor Resh will serve as the SPEA resident director on site. Administrative staff of the Speyer University will also assist with logistics, academic concerns, and medical and emergency issues. Prior to departure, SPEA will interview all SPEA applicants and solicit information about relevant health issues; in addition, a list of contact numbers will be maintained in Bloomington.

5.4 Visa procedure

All non-U.S. citizens are responsible for contacting **in time** the German Embassy or Consulate to determine the entry and visa requirements. **Please apply as early as possible for your visa, as the procedure usually takes a long time.**

6. Contact

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www.uni-speyer.de/ENGL/spea/

www.indiana.edu/~spea/spea_abroad/speyer.shtml

<http://speaontherhine.weebly.com>

7. Detailed overview of seminars

A comparative perspective on public administration in the European Union, Germany, and the US (Bauer/Resh)

Overview

The aim of this seminar is to compare EU, German and US approaches to common problems of public administration and to present key characteristics of these systems. For this purpose, each session will start with a lecture of 35-45 min giving a general introduction to the topic. This will be followed by the first student presentation of 15-20 min with a discussion of 20 min. It follows a second lecture, a second student's presentation and final discussion.

Topics

Session 1: Origins of public administration as a discipline

1. Characteristics, purpose and today's relevance of Wilson's distinction between politics and administration
2. Characteristics, purpose and today's relevance of Weber's bureaucratic model

Session 2: Parliaments and (their) bureaucracies

3. Bureaucrats in the US Congress
4. Bureaucrats in the European Parliament

Session 3: Courts and administrative culture

5. US courts and administrative culture
6. EU courts and administrative culture

Session 4: Political approaches to public personnel administration

7. Tensions between political appointees and careerists in the US federal government
8. The "political civil servant" in Germany – a contradiction in itself?

Session 5: The citizen's right to know in the US, EU and Germany

9. US Freedom of Information Act: scope, implementation problems, and future development
10. Citizen rights and the EU Ombudsman

Session 6: The structure and accountability of regulatory agencies

11. The structure and accountability of regulatory agencies in the European Union
12. The structure and accountability of regulatory agencies in the US

Session 7: Administrative reforms

13. New public management in Germany – an appraisal
14. New public management in the US – an appraisal

Session 8: Politicized Bureaucracy

15. Politicized Bureaucracy in the US
16. Politicized Bureaucracy in the EU

European Economic Integration (Knorr)

Overview

The course of study is designed to familiarize students with the key theoretical and political concepts of European economic integration, its successes and its failures. In order to achieve its objectives, the course is divided into two main parts. Part A, conceived as a brief introduction to the field, kicks off with a short history of the European economic integration process and an overview of the structural elements of alternative forms of regional economic integration. It concludes with a synopsis of the economic theory of regional economic integration. The focus of Part B will be on select areas of the European economic integration as it has evolved in practice: the EU's tax harmonization efforts and the supranational competition policy, the EU's budget, the Common Agricultural Policy and the European Monetary Union (EMU).

The seminar will be taught by Professor Knorr. The first session is a lecture that introduces the overall topic. The following sessions are composed of a lecture of about 15 min giving a general introduction to the topic, followed by two students' presentations of 20 min with a discussion after each presentation of 30 min.

Topics

Session 1: Introduction to European economic integration

1. A short history of European economic integration
2. Alternative forms of regional economic integration

Session 2: The economics of regional integration

3. The economics behind the four basic freedoms of the Single Market
4. The economic effects of regional economic integration – the theory of customs unions

Session 3: The Single Market

5. Tax harmonization in the Single Market?
6. The EU's supranational competition policy and control of state aids

Session 4: The EU's budget and the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

7. The EU's budget (incl. budgetary crises and reforms)
8. Agricultural policy and agricultural protectionism in the EU and USA: objectives, policy instruments, economic costs and benefits

Session 5: Monetary integration

9. The economic costs and benefits of (not) joining a monetary union
10. The aborted "Werner Plan" of 1970, the de facto 1992 collapse of the

EMS/ERM and today's "EURO crisis": Will monetary integration in the EU fail for the third time in just forty years?

Comparative local government (Jaekel)

Overview

The seminar imparts knowledge about local government systems and administrative modernization from a cross-country-comparative perspective. Students receive an overview of the institutional structures, the functional responsibilities and the decision-making processes at the local level of government as well as on pertinent conceptual approaches to study comparative local government. Moreover, the seminar enables students to analyze various reform concepts and results.

Each session will start with an introductory lecture (30 min). This will be followed by the first and the second student presentation (15-20 min each) and discussion (whole-class activities). Each session will include group work. Objectives: Transfer and apply knowledge presented in the lecture/presentations. Group work will be followed by whole-class discussion.

Topics

Session 1: Key characteristics of local government

1. Theories and methods
2. The relevance, strengths and weaknesses of local authorities around the globe

Session 2: Performance management and benchmarking

3. How to measure performance? How to measure improvement?
4. The virtues and flaws of performance assessments and benchmarking

Session 3: Local public finances

5. The theory of fiscal federalism and its application to local government
6. "Detroit's bankruptcy - Can Motown be mended?" Local government finances in Germany and the US

Session 4: Local politics

7. Direct election of mayors and strengthening local leadership
8. It Never Rains in Southern California: Direct Democracy in Switzerland, the US, and Germany

Session 5: Local government reforms

9. Local body mergers: Is there an optimal size for efficient local jurisdictions?
10. Summary and conclusions

US and European constitutional law from a comparative perspective (cases) (Sommermann)

Overview

The seminar “US and European Constitutional Law from a Comparative Perspective” aims at identifying and analyzing structural differences and similarities in the constitutional law of the US on the one hand and of Germany and select other European states on the other hand. It will examine to which extent constitutional arguments or patterns of argumentation are transferable from one system to the other. Special regard will be paid to select fundamental rights such as freedom of speech or freedom of religion.

The sessions will cover:

- Introduction to US and European Constitutionalism
- General principles of Constitutional Comparativism
- Comparison of fundamental rights in the US and in Europe
- Analysis of select case law

Each session is composed of at least two student presentations which will be the basis for the following plenary discussion. For a more sensitized understanding and a broader knowledge about the constitutional traditions of the respective countries, it is intended to change roles and perspectives: US students will be asked to represent the European position, German students, in contrast, will take the US view.

This method is meant to reveal differences in the legal cultures of both continents and to review commonly used argumentation patterns in the US as well as in the European constitutional tradition.

Session 1: Introduction to US and European Constitutionalism

Session 2: Federalism

Session 3: Democracy and Freedom of speech

Session 4: Freedom of religion

Session 5: Social Rights

Turkey and the European Union (Bauer/Schomaker/Lehrke)

Overview

The purpose of this seminar is to introduce the students into the decision-making complexity of the European Union (EU) by dealing with what is perhaps the most important decision to be taken in the coming years: the accession of Turkey. The problems and positions in this context constitute the vantage point to start analysing actor constellations and interests, constitutional requirements, procedural logics and domestic pressures that underlay supranational decision-making in the EU. Accession negotiations with Turkey are on-going, but the outcome is far from clear. Turkey's membership bid splits political elites and populations on both sides.

The seminar is organized as follows: The first session will introduce the applicant state, with special emphasis on EU-Turkey relations, and the general procedure for EU accession. The second session will deal with religious and cultural issues for the negotiations. Economic, geostrategic and security issues will be discussed in the third session. Finally, the fourth and fifth session will introduce the positions of central actors (such as the European Parliament, Germany, France and the United Kingdom) and will highlight their implications for the decision-making process.

Methodologically, the seminar will follow a "dossier logic". The students will be given the task to analyze the question of Turkish accession from particular perspectives of various main players. These positions and their rationales will be presented in class in the form of "briefing notes", i.e. background notes for imagined top policy-makers which include recommendations for positions that should be taken by the respective government or leadership in the upcoming negotiations. The seminar will include guest lectures from experts on EU-Arabic relations and security policy.

Course requirements

Apart from taking part in class discussions, students will work in small groups to prepare the briefing notes, which will be presented in class. Those interested in fulfilling the requirements for a paper in this class will have to hand in a – more elaborate – position paper for the respective country/actor that will include a detailed analysis of its various interests.

Course Plan

Session 1: The applicant state and the rules of the game

Session 2: The issues I: religious and cultural factors

Session 3: The issues II: economic, geostrategic and security interests

Session 4: The positions of central actors I

Session 5: The positions of central actors II and wrap-up

8. Brussels excursion program

Wednesday, June 4

Afternoon

European Parliament

The European Parliament is the world's strongest supranational legislature. Taking place right after the European elections 2014, this visit will introduce the students to the peculiarities of an assembly that draws its members from 28 countries. They will learn how decisions are taken in this heterogeneous institution and what role it plays in the EU.



Thursday, June 5

Morning

European Commission

The European Commission is the executive body of the EU and a central player when it comes to shaping policy. This visit will focus on perhaps the greatest problem facing the EU in this decade, the financial and economic crisis. The students will learn what the Commission is proposing for future EU economic governance and how hard it is to foster consensus among the member states.



Afternoon

Council of the European Union

The member state governments remain the most powerful actors in the EU to this day. They are represented in the Council. This visit will show the students the numerous challenges when trying to take decisions in a body with sometimes as many different positions as there are member states. The visit will further focus on the Council's relations with the Parliament and the Commission.



Friday, June 6

Morning

Committee of the Regions

Subsidiarity is a key principle of the EU. The Committee of the Regions is its institutional safeguard. This visit will show how this body works and how it promotes regional interests.



Meeting with a representative from the Turkish Embassy in Brussels

This meeting (held at the Committee building) will discuss the EU accession talks with Turkey.



APPENDIX

Guidelines – seminar paper, handout, presentation

1. Seminar paper

- Cover sheet (full name, topic, student ID number, course ID, submission deadline)
- Contents
- List of abbreviations
- Text
- References
- Appendices (graphs, tables, etc.)
- Length: 3000 – 4000 words
- **Handout** (executive summary: 1 page)

2. Referencing and citing

- All widely used formats are acceptable (Harvard-style etc.)
- If in doubt, please take a look here:
<http://www.essex.ac.uk/myskills/skills/referencing/referencingSkills.asp#01>
- Use respectable (=“scientific”) sources only
- (<http://www.wikipedia.com> is **not** one of them!)
- Plagiarism will **not** be tolerated!
Plagiarism consists of any act of borrowing the words, opinions, ideas, sequence of ideas, statistical data, or other findings of another author without proper attribution. This means that, for instance, the literal citation of a text must be put in quotation marks. Mere reference to the author in a footnote is not sufficient. Plagiarism will result in lower grades and might even lead to a grade of 0. If 10% or more of a paper represents plagiarism, the paper will not be graded, and the person will be removed from the seminar.

3. Reading assignments

- Upon agreement with the instructor(s):
 - a) orally: 5-10 min, or
 - b) written summary: 1-2 pages

4. Submission deadlines

- The term paper is due to July 15, 2014.
- “Late-paper-submission” rule
- The handout is due before the presentation according to the agreement with the instructor(s)

- Please submit the file(s) (word document) to the instructor(s).

5. Presentations

- Seminar paper: app. 20 min
- Reading assignment (upon agreement with the instructor(s)):
 - a) orally: app. 5 –10 min, or
 - b) written summary: 1-2 pages

6. Report on EU institution: 2-3 pages (group work)