Master Urban and Regional Planning winter semester 2019-20

Chair of Planning Theory and Urban-Regional Policy Analysis
Prof. Dr. Enrico Gualini

06361400 L28
Module M4 Planning Theory A / B
SE Planning as Political Process 1

Seminar

Tuesday, 10:00-12:00h (group A) / 12:00-14:00h (group B), Room EB 224

Prof. Dr. E. Gualini
(with the participation of Dr. Artur Jerzy Filip, visiting scholar, Warsaw University of Technology)

Calendar

note: subject to adjustment in the course of the seminar

22.10 1. Introduction to the course: topic, activities, requirements
Formation of ‘reading groups’

part I: Reading groups

29.10 2. Power, advocacy and empowerment
05.11 3. Communicative planning and consensus-building
12.11 4. Communicative rationality and its critics
19.11 5. The rise of the ‘new urban politics’
26.11 6. The ‘post-political city’ – and beyond
03.12 7. Planning alternatives

part II: Reflection

10.12 8. Plenary discussion, brainstorming and mind-mapping session
Formation of ‘thematic groups’
17.12 9. Thesis essay (individual)

part III: Thematic seminars (to be defined)

07.01 10.
14.01 11.
21.01 12.
28.01 13.
04.02 14.
11.02 15.

Literature

For each meeting, all texts are recommended reading; reading groups are assigned one mandatory reading for each session. Further texts may be occasionally suggested as additional readings.

Please read the text(s) carefully and prepare comments/observations for discussion in the seminar.

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26.11 6. The ‘post-political city’ – and beyond


03.12 7. Planning alternatives


Useful texts of general interest (suggested) are:


**General course information**

**Topic**

The seminar addresses the question of what is the ‘political’ in urban planning.

On the background of a tradition of planning theory reflecting on the political role and on the political process of planning, the seminar addresses developments of the last decades which question the nature of the ‘political’ in urban planning, raising new questions about this issue. These developments are associated in critical urban research with emergent phenomena – like the end of the Fordist era of industrial production, the ‘globalisation’ of the economy, the increasing internationalisation of urban relations, and related changes in democratic practices – and which are reflected in shifts in political discourse and practice concerning urban issues.

A significant focus of critical debate is recently on notions such as ‘neo-liberalism’ and ‘post-political’ or ‘post-democracy’. These are explored with reference in particular to local politics, urban issues, and to the role played by planning practices in face of such developments.

On the background of theoretical concerns with the ‘political’, the seminar directs attention to change in the nature and understandings of urban policy and relates this to change in planning practices and instruments.

These and further related questions are addressed through a discussion of theoretical contributions from urban studies as well as through the analysis of international case-studies. A specific attention will be devoted to shift in objectives and instruments of planning with regard to market dynamics of urban development and with regards to governance processes.

**Activities**

The seminar consists of joint activities, based on:
- discussions of the seminar literature (required and suggested), supported by inputs by the teacher;
- thematic seminars devoted to student presentations on chosen topics and to their discussion.

Language: English.
The portfolio-examination elements of the seminar can be completed in German language upon request.

**Thematic seminars**

After completing readings and discussion in part I and after an interim reflection in part II, the seminar enter part III, in which students are required to express their interest for a specific ‘thematic track’ (suggested by the teacher) and to forma a group for this purpose. The groups are asked to make presentations starting from the related literature, according to a defined protocol (suggested by the teacher). The procedure is defined during the course of the seminar.

The presentations delivered by thematic groups count as requirements and are assessed as the second element of portfolio-examination.

**Learning resources**

All seminar resources including this syllabus, (selected) literature sources and comments/communications are made available on a dedicated ISIS2 course from the start of the semester (password-protected).

**Grading and evaluation**

Students are required to actively participate in the activities of the seminar.

Individual students’ assessment is based on active participation in discussions and colloquia during the seminar as well as on the presentation of an essay / written report at the end of the seminar; both examination elements are required for passing the seminar.

Assessment is in the form of a portfolio-examination.

Examination elements of final assessment are:

- presentations / active participation in colloquia (groups / individual) weighting: 50%
- essay / written report (in groups) weighting: 50%

The examination elements of the seminar can be completed in German language upon request.

The seminar can be attended as part of either Module M4 Planning Theory A (6 ECTS) or Module M4 Planning Theory B (9 ECTS). For detailed evaluation and grading rules, please refer to descriptions of Modules M4 Planning Theory A and M4 Planning Theory B.

**Deadlines**

The portfolio-examination is completed during the duration of the seminar.

**Consultation hour**

Tuesday, 9:00-10:00h, ISR, Room B 219.
Please sign in at the notice board or contact the chair’s secretariat for a timeslot.