WWU

University of Münster
School of Business & Economics
The Chair of Political Economy

Master seminar

The Economics of Populism and Radicalism

Summer term 2022

Seminar focus

Populism and radicalism have been on the rise in the 21st century. This seminar discusses the causes and consequences of this rise. The topics selected cover many dimensions, from economic crises and globalization, to the role of media and social norms. As a complement, a short historical perspective is included as well. Through this seminar, participants will engage with state-of-the-art empirical research in political economy.

The course language is English.

Prerequisites

The course is open to Master students in Economics (modules MWP28-33). Prior knowledge in introductory econometrics is **required**. We expect participants to have attended the course Empirical Methods, at least. Additional knowledge in econometrics is highly welcome.

Assignments

Credit points are granted for **preparing a term paper (15 pages), presenting the results in front of the class, discussing the term paper of another colleague, and actively participating in general discussions during the seminar**. Each student is assigned one baseline paper (see below). Students are then expected to critically present and analyze the central aspects and methods of their baseline papers and discuss their relevance in the context of a somewhat broader academic literature.

Moreover, all participants are expected to read two introductory articles: Mudde (2004) and Rodrik (2018).

All term papers will be supervised by the course instructor. Students should arrange at least one meeting to discuss the structure of their papers. The outline and structure should be submitted via e-mail prior to the meeting. The term paper is supposed to contain a cover page, a table of contents, the main text, a reference list (bibliography) and (where applicable) an appendix. The paper can be written in Word or LaTeX. For style requirements, such as margins, font size, spacing and so forth, participants should follow the guidelines for academic texts described here: `https://www.wiwi.uni-muenster.de/loep/sites/loep/files/leitfaden_wiss_arbeiten_loep_stand24.06.2020.pdf` (in German).

Application and enrollment

To apply for this course, send an e-mail to Manuel Santos Silva (manuel.santos.silva@uni-muenster.de). The application deadline is **March 11, 2022**. Enrollment is limited to a maximum of **15 participants**. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Students who have successfully applied for this seminar will receive an e-mail with information on how to sign in for the Learnweb course. Once enrolled, participants can rank the baseline papers according to their preferences. The ranking will be open **March 21 to March 27, 2022 (12p.m.)**. The assignment of participating students to the papers will be communicated in the **introductory meeting on March 28, 2022**. Participation in the first meeting is **mandatory** to enroll for the class. Additional registration for the seminar is required in QISPOS/FlexNow before the **early deadline** of the summer term 2022.

If you have organizational questions, please reach out to Manuel Santos Silva (manuel.santos.silva@wiwi.uni-muenster.de).

Important dates

Note: Rooms and dates might be subject to change. Room 101 (GraSP) is on the 1st floor of the CIW building at Scharnhorstr. 100.

Introductory meeting: **March 28, 2022, 09:00–11:00** (Room 101 in GraSP)
Dates of seminar: **June 24, 2022, 09:00–16:00** (Room 101 in GraSP)
                        July 1, 2022, 09:00–16:00 (Room 101 in GraSP)

Submission date for term papers: **June 19, 2022** (until Sun 12:00p.m. / Mon 00:00a.m.)

Introductory readings

Readings marked with **(*)** are mandatory for all participants.

- **(*)** Mudde, C. (2004). The Populist Zeitgeist. *Government and Opposition*, 39, 541–563.

- **(*)** Rodrik, D. (2018). Populism and the Economics of Globalization. *Journal of International Business Policy*, 1, 12–33.

- Guriev, S. & Papaioannou , E. (2020), The Political Economy of Populism. *Journal of Economic Literature*, forthcoming.

- Mudde, C. & Rovira Kaltwasser, C. (2017). Populism. A Very Short Introduction. Oxford University Press.

- Norris, P. & Inglehart, R. (2019). Cultural Backlash. Trump, Brexit, and Authoritarian Populism. Cambridge University Press.

Topics & baseline articles

I. Economic insecurity: Globalization and trade

- Autor, D., Dorn, D., Hanson, G. & Majlesi, K. (2020). Importing Political Polarization? The Electoral Consequences of Rising Trade Exposure. *American Economic Review*, 110 (10), 3139-3183

- Colantone, I., & Stanig, P. (2018). The Trade Origins of Economic Nationalism: Import Competition and Voting Behavior in Western Europe. *American Journal of Political Science*, 62 (4), 936–953.

II. Economic insecurity: Economic crises

- Algan, Y., Guriev, S., Papaioannou, E., & Passari, E. (2017). The European Trust Crisis and the Rise of Populism. *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, Fall 2017, 309-400.

- Fetzer, T. (2019). Did Austerity Cause Brexit? *American Economic Review*, 109 (11), 3849-3886.

- Funke, M., Schularick, M., & Trebesch, C. (2016). Going to extremes: Politics after financial crises, 1870-2014. *European Economic Review*, 88, 227–260.

III. Information and communication: Mass media

- DellaVigna, S., & Kaplan, E. (2007). The Fox News Effect: Media Bias and Voting. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122 (3), 1187–1234.

- Durante, R., Pinotti, P., & Tesei, A. (2019). The Political Legacy of Entertainment TV. *American Economic Review*, 109 (7), 2497–2530.

- Adena, M., Enikolopov, R., Petrova, M., Santarosa, V., & Zhuravskaya, E. (2015). Radio and the Rise of The Nazis in Prewar Germany. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130 (4), 1885-1939.

IV. Information and communication: Mis-information and social media

- Müller, K. & Schwarz, C. (2021). Fanning the Flames of Hate. Social Media and Hate Crime. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, forthcoming.

- Allcott, H., & Gentzkow, M. (2017). Social Media and Fake News in the 2016 Election. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 31 (2), 211–236.

- Barrera, O., Guriev, S., Henry, E., & Zhuravskaya, E. (2020). Facts, Alternative Facts, and Fact Checking in Times of Post-truth Politics. *Journal of Public Economics*, 182, 104-123.

V. Immigration and exposure to foreigners

- Steinmayr, A. (2021). Contact versus Exposure: Refugee Presence and Voting for the Far-Right. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, forthcoming.

- Schindler, D., & Westcott, M. (2021). Shocking Racial Attitudes: Black G.I.s in Europe. *Review of Economic Studies*, 88 (1), 489-520.

- Dustmann, C., Vasiljeva, K., & Damm, A. (2019). Refugee Migration and Electoral Outcomes. *Review of Economic Studies*, 86 (5), 2035-2091.

VI. Social norms and attitudes

- Giani, M., & Méon, P.-G. (2021). Global Racist Contagion Following Donald Trump's Election. *British Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming.

- Bursztyn, L., Egorov, G., & Fiorin, S. (2020). From Extreme to Mainstream: The Erosion of Social Norms. *American Economic Review*, 110 (11), 3522–3548.

- Enke, B. (2020). Moral Values and Voting. *Journal of Political Economy*, 128 (10), 3679-3729.

- Mutz, D. C. (2018). Status Threat, Not Economic Hardship, Explains the 2016 Presidential Vote. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 115 (19), 4330-39.

VII. Radicalism in historical perspective

- Voigtländer, N., & Voth, H.-J. (2012). Persecution Perpetuated: The Medieval Origins of Anti-Semitic Violence in Nazi Germany. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 127 (3), 1339–1392.

- Voigtländer, N., & Voth, H.-J. (2019). Highway to Hitler. *NBER Working Papers*, 20150.

- Cantoni, D., Hagemeister, F., & Westcott, M. (2019). Persistence and Activation of Right-Wing Political Ideology. *Rationality & Competition Discussion Papers*, 143.

- De Bromhead, A., Eichengreen, B., & O'Rourke, K. (2013). Political Extremism in the 1920s and 1930s: Do German Lessons Generalize? *Journal of Economic History*, 73 (2), 371-406.

Course instructors

Dr. Manuel Santos Silva
Room 125
Scharnhorststr. 100
48151 Münster
manuel.santos.silva@uni-muenster.de