



ESPOL

European School of Political and Social Sciences

MASTER 1 STUDY TRIP 2020



Erfurt Study Trip

From 30 January to 02 February 2020
(with a Workshop at ESPOL on January 17th-18th, 2020)



MA Joint Research Seminar ESPOL-ICL/ Uni. Erfurt
PAST AND FUTURE OF WORLD POLITICAL ORGANIZATION(S)





Joint Research Seminar Uni. Erfurt/ESPOL-ICL

PAST AND FUTURE (OF) WORLD POLITICAL ORDER(S)

*A French-German crossed investigation
into the contingency of global political order(s)*

- ◆ **DESCRIPTION:** The initiative by ESPOL-ICL and the University of Erfurt to set up a Joint Seminar on the “Past and Future (of) World Political Order(s)” addresses a series of alarming global challenges the ‘world’ is facing today, and seeks to analyse their impact on human life on a planet divided into distinct political communities or states. Indeed, we are currently witnessing the proliferation and intensification of claims about radical change, whether the change is welcomed or feared. Such claims circulate around the future of the state especially, and hence around the historically and globally dominant form of political organisation. It seems unclear whether in light of these challenges the *political* organisation of human communities on the planet as it developed and consolidated historically is about to change radically or to reproduce endlessly, and how changes in technology, the environment, and the economy transform the fabric of human societies.

With the ESPO-ICL/Erfurt University Joint Seminar **students from both institutions pursue the question of what ‘political organisation’ means nowadays by exploring and interrogating the hermeneutical, social, and political forces involved in four of the most pressing issues of our times:** environmental degradation, the spread of digital/computing technologies, the financialisation of the economy, and the transformation of violence and hostility, and how the changes in these areas impact on the state-centric form of ‘world political order(s).’

For this purpose, the seminar will organize encounters of students and professors of both universities with high-ranking practitioners (at least 1 per workshop) who will present how they engage with the problems and challenges addressed in the seminar. This will include a presentation of their education and training, career trajectory, current employer and work environment, range of responsibilities and activities, difficulties in achieving their mission, and actual influence on the possible transformation of ‘world political order(s)’. Each presentation will be followed by a discussion with the students and a lecture by one of the professors which will aim at contextualizing and problematizing the discussion.

- ◆ **STRUCTURE:** The seminar is divided in two workshops, one organized in Lille and one in Erfurt. Each workshop is divided into four sessions (two of them being respectively dedicated to one major contemporary challenge) and concludes with a ‘wrap-up session’ synthesizing the discussions.

The seminar will open with an inaugural lecture given by a prominent scholar (TBC), and conclude with a collective working session centred on the hermeneutical and political value of ‘critique’ and the centrality of the ‘theoretical practice’ of diagnosing and constructing social and political problems of contemporary ‘world political order(s)’.

- ◆ **EVALUATION:** Students will be evaluated on the basis of a **collective essay** and their **individual participation** in the discussions.

The seminar is **limited to 15 students per university partner**. It is opened to **1st and 2nd year MA students from Erfurt University**. Full presence to both workshops in Lille and Erfurt is **mandatory for ESPOL 1st year MA students** who have enrolled for the seminar, and the **workshop in Lille is opened to 2nd year MA students from ESPOL**.
Both workshops in Lille and Erfurt are opened to all interested admin. and faculty members from both universities.

P R O G R A M M E

F I R S T W O R K S H O P

ESPOL-ICL, Lille, France

16-19 January 2020

Thursday 16th, 2020 | 18h00-19h30 | Welcoming drinks

◆ Free dinner ◆

Session 1 | Friday 17th | 09h30 – 12h30 Introducing the Problem(s)

*The Contingency of Political Order(s)
and the Question of the Limits*

with a lecture by **Janis GRZYBOWSKI**

Instructors: Philippe BONDITTI, Janis GRZYBOWSKI, Oliver KESSLER

Description: The contingency of political order; political modernity, the state and the interstate system; man/nature and nature/culture divides; change as the interplay of ruptures and continuities; modern epistemology and political diagnostic and critique;

Readings:

- **KRATOCHWIL** Friedrich, 1986. "Of Systems, Boundaries, and Territoriality: An Inquiry into the Formation of the State System", *World Politics*, 39(1): 27-52.
- **SCHMITT** Carl, 2006 [1950]. "Part V. Appendix: Three Concluding Corollaries" in *The Nomos of the Earth*, New York: Telos Press Publishing, pp. 324-356.
- **WALKER** R.B.J., 2006. "The Double Outside of the Modern International", *Ephemera. Theory & Politics in Organization*, 6(1): 56-69

◆ Lunch break – 12h30-14h00 ◆

Session 2 | Friday 17th | 14h00-18h00 GLOBE, WORLD, PLANET

*Environmental Degradation and Human Activity:
What's Going on with the Anthropocene?*

Interventions by

Adèle FARDOUX, Chargée de mission climat et transports, French Ministry for the ecological and solidary transition and **Sofia KABBEJ**, PhD Candidate, University of Queensland, (Brisbane, Australia) et Association Climates

Followed by a discussion and a **Lecture by Philippe BONDITTI**

Description: With the growing issue of environmental degradation since the early 1970s and the associated problem of climate change, a new concept has emergence in the vocabulary of international and 'world politics': the concept of the planet. To what extend does this concept and its lasting installation in discourses about international 'world politics' impacts our understanding and practice of sovereignty and, more broadly, of politics?

Readings:

- **BURKE** Anthony et. Al., 2016. “Planet Politics: A Manifesto from the End of IR”, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 44(3): 499–523.
- **DANOWSKI** Deborah, **VIVEIROS DE CASTRO** Eduardo, “Humans and Terrans in the Gaïa War”, in *The Ends of the World*, Cambridge, Malden: Polity Press, pp. 79-108.
- **DESCOLA** Philippe, 2006. “Beyond Nature and Culture”, the 2005 Radcliffe-Brown Lecture in Social Anthropology, *Proceedings of the British Academy*, 139: 137-155.
- **LATOURE** Bruno, 2016. “Onus Orbis Terrarum: About a Possible Shift in the Definition of Sovereignty”, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 44(3): 305–320.

◆ Drinks and organized dinner ◆

Session 3 | Saturday 18th | 09h00-12h30

DIGITAL, TECHNIQUE, POLITICS

The Advent of Digital Technologies: the future with Artificial Intelligence, Blockchains and the Internet of things

Lecture by **Oliver KESSLER** followed by a discussion

Description: Digital Technologies are about to transform the global polity profoundly. In this session, we ask whether AI, BC and IoT provide a ‘superlogic’ that transforms the way in which law, economy and security are related – or whether functional logics will prevail.

Readings:

- **BELLANOVA** Rocco, 2017. “Digital, politics, and algorithms: Governing digital data through the lens of data protection”, *European Journal of Social Theory*, 20(3): 329–347.
- **Bellanova** Rocco, **FUSTER GONZALES** Gloria, 2019. “Composting and computing: On digital security compositions”, *European Journal of International Security*, 4: 345-365.
- **FIORETOS** Orfeo, **HEDT** Eugénia C., 2019. “Legacies and innovations in global economic governance since Bretton Woods”, *Review of International Political Economy*, 26(6): 1089-1111.
- **BERNARDS** Nick, **CAMPBELL-VERDUYN** Malcolm, 2019. “Understanding technological change in global finance through infrastructures”, *Review of International Political Economy*, 26(5): 773-789.
- **ILVES** Toomas Hendrik, **KOENDERS** Bert 2017. “Foreword” , in *Tallinn Manual 2.0 on the International Law Applicable to Cyber Operations*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1-31.

◆ Break – 12h30-13h00 ◆

Brown Bag Seminar | Saturday 18th | 13h00-15h00

Wrap up session: what have we done and what is to be done?

Description: For this session, students by groups of 2 or 3 (formed right from the beginning of the workshop), will have to: a) synthesize the discussions of the sessions 2 and 3 in light of the lectures provided and their readings, and b) present and confront their views on the challenges and problems addressed during the workshop.

City Tour | Saturday 18th | 15h00-18h00

Followed by

◆ Drinks and free Dinner ◆

SECOND WORKSHOP

University of Erfurt, Erfurt, Germany
30 Jan-1 Feb 2020

Thursday 30th | 18h00 | Welcoming drinks

◆ Free Dinner ◆

Friday 31st | Morning | FREE

with the possibility to attend the seminar

SOVEREIGNTY AND THE STATE IN THE XXIST CENTURY

(10h00-12h30)

◆ Free Lunch ◆

Session 4 | Friday 31st | 14h30-17h30

STATE, MARKET, CAPITAL

*Financialization and Financial Crises:
What's going on with the Economic Crisis?*

Intervention by Tobias PFEIFER

Ex-Managing Director for Investment banking
at Deutsche Bank

Followed by a discussion and a **Lecture by Oliver KESSLER**

Description: With the financial crisis it became evidently clear that 'casino capitalism', as Susan Strange coined it, potentially has de-stabilising effects for national democracies. In this session, we approach the crisis and explore the contemporary transformation of the relationship between capital and labour through the concept of financialization.

Readings:

- **MURAU** Steffen, "Shadow Money and the Public Money Supply: The Impact of the 2007-2009 financial crisis on the monetary system", *Review of International Political Economy*, 24 (5): 802-838.
- **VAN DER ZWAAN** Natasha, "Making Sense of Financialization", *Socio-Economic Review*, 12 (1): 99-129.

◆ Drinks and organized dinner ◆

Session 5 | Saturday 1st | 09h00-12h00

VIOLENCE, WAR, SECURITY

*Politics, Power, Violence:
What's going on with 'Terrorism'?*

Lecture by **Philippe BONDITTI** followed by a discussion

Description: This session is dedicated to the issue of violence and its contemporary transformations. It will explore and interrogate the ways in which the phenomena of violence is currently being newly categorized and appropriated (i.e. 'problematized') through major conceptual shifts in, and inclinations of the *modern discourse on violence*. More specifically, it will interrogate the new inflexions of this discourse, therefore the ways in which it sets new conditions of possibility for a) the construction of

violence as both a problem and a solution (to itself); and b) hostility to find new forms of expression under entirely reconfigured regime of limits.

Readings:

- **CLAUSEWITZ** Carl von, “What is war?” (1, book 1); “On the Theory of War” (2. book 2); “Absolute War and Real War” (2. Book 8), in *On War*, translated by Peter Paret and Michael Howard, Princeton, Princeton University Press: 75-89; 133-148; 579-582.
- **FOUCAULT** Michel, 1976. “Lecture of January 21, 1976” in *Society Must Be Defended. Lectures at the Collège de France 1976*, edited by Mauro Bertani and Alessandro Fontana, translated by David Macey, New York: Picador, pp. 43-64.
- **NEOCLEOUS** Mark, “War as Peace, Peace as Pacification” in *War Power, Police Power*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, pp. 17-47.

◆ Lunch Break – 12h00-14h00 ◆

Session 6 (concluding session) | Saturday 1st | 14h00-17h00
THEORY, CRITIQUE, IDEOLOGY
Wrap up session: what have we done and what is to be done?

The Critical Value of the Theoretical Practice

Instructors: Philippe BONDITTI, Janis GRZYBOWSKI, Oliver KESSLER

Description: In this session we explore the critical value of ‘theoretical knowledge’. More specifically, in the face of the contemporary challenges explored throughout this seminar and the questions posed by the transformations of violence, the financialisation of the economy, the increasing use of computer technologies, and environmental degradation, we interrogate the theoretical and conceptual inflections these developments have given rise to, as well as the political value of critique and with which meaning of critique.

By groups of 2 or 3 (formed right from the beginning of the workshop), students will have to: a) synthesize the discussions of the sessions 5 and 6 in light of the lectures provided and their readings, and b) present and confront their views on the challenges and problems addressed during the workshop.

Readings:

- **ALTHUSSER** Louis, 2005 [1965]. “A Theoretical Revolution in Action” and “The Process of Theoretical Practice”, in: *For Marx*, London/New York: Verso, pp. 173-193.
- **FOUCAULT** Michel, 1978. “What is Critique? Critique and Aufklärung”
- **HORKHEIMER** Max, 2002 [1937]. “Traditional and Critical Theory”, in: *Critical theory. Selected Essays Max Horkheimer*, New York: The Continuum Publishing Company pp. 225-end.
- **KANT** Immanuel, 1784. “An Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?” et “On the common saying: that may be correct in theory, but it is of no use in practice”.

◆ Drinks and free dinner ◆

