Online seminar rules

General instructions

The seminar will be held as a synchronic course, with online connection by participants in order to conduct specific activities (see course calendar and description of activities, below).

The following online tools will be used:
-  ISIS course ‘Planning as Political Process 2’ as a platform for general communication;
-  video-meeting tool Webex Meeting for plenary discussions and group presentations;
-  PowerPoint presentations with audio commentary (made available on ISIS course) for seminar inputs.

The rules of use for these tools is explained in the following:

**ISIS course ‘Planning as Political Process 2’**:
Registration by all participants is required before April 20.
The ISIS course will serve for general communication, for instructions, for making materials available (literature and PowerPoints), for forums, and for accessing the video conference tool ‘meet@ISIS’ (embedded in the ISIS course).
In general, participants are asked to be logged into the ISIS course and to have their email account available at the beginning of each seminar meeting. Further requirements are dependent on specific activities (see course calendar, below).

**Webex Meeting**:
This video conference tool will be used for plenary discussions and group presentations. The tool can be accessed using personal Tubit accounts.
Before each seminar meeting, participants of group A (10.00) and group B (12.00) are asked to connect to the seminar. Please be prepared to connect at the full hour (10.00 or 12.00) in order to be able to start the seminar at quarter past the hour (10.15 or 12.15). Occasionally, a later connecting time can be provided. Instructions for connecting are per email sent via ISIS.
Please check your access to Webex Meeting before the start of the seminar.
Please have your Internet and email connection ready at each seminar meeting.

When using Webex Meeting:
-  please switch your microphone off in order to avoid background noise;
-  switching your camera on is recommended (and mandatory when speaking);
-  as a general rule, in order to avoid confusion, speaking is only allowed upon invitation by the moderator. The hand-raising screen symbol (below left) can be used to ask for right to speak. Please choose a quite environment.

**PowerPoint presentations**:
these will be made available through the ISIS course before the seminar meetings and will remain in the archive for the duration of the seminar. The presentations will be devoted mainly to inputs and will be supplemented by a video version including audio commentary.
As a general rule, seminar meetings with a scheduled input (see course calendar, below) will be divided in two parts:
- in the first part (about 45 mins.), in order to avoid online overload, each participant will individually go through the PowerPoint presentation, and take note of points of discussion to be raised in the plenary;
- in the second part (about 45 mins.), after connecting through Webex Meeting, an online plenary discussion will follow.

Note:
PowerPoint presentations are for seminar purpose only - please do not disseminate outside the seminar.

More instructions for the use of online tools for assignments are found below.

**Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21.04</td>
<td>1. First online meeting: Introduction to the seminar</td>
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<td>Plenary discussion</td>
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<td>28.04</td>
<td>2. Input 1: Introduction: Spatial planning and urban conflicts</td>
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<td>Plenary discussion / Assignment 1, part 1</td>
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<td>05.05</td>
<td>3. Input 2: Conflict and the city: social contention and urban space</td>
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<td>Plenary discussion / Assignment 1, part 2</td>
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<td>12.05</td>
<td>4. Input 3: Theories of contention and social mobilization, 1</td>
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<td>Plenary discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.05</td>
<td>5. Input 4: Theories of contention and social mobilization, 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Plenary discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>26.05</td>
<td>6. Plenary meeting: Assignment 2</td>
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<td>02.06</td>
<td>7. Input 5: Transforming conflict: Deliberative / interpretive approaches, 1</td>
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<td>Plenary discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.06</td>
<td>8. Input 6: Transforming conflict: Deliberative / interpretive approaches, 2</td>
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<td>Plenary discussion</td>
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<td>16.06</td>
<td>9. Plenary meeting: Assignment 3</td>
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<td>23.06</td>
<td>10. Plenary meeting: Consultations</td>
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<td>30.06</td>
<td>11. Plenary meeting: Group presentations and discussion, 1</td>
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<td>07.07</td>
<td>12. Plenary meeting: Group presentations and discussion, 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.07</td>
<td>13. Plenary meeting: Group presentations and discussion, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>21.07</td>
<td>14. (t.b.d.)</td>
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Literature

Note:
Texts made available through the ISIS course are for seminar purpose only. Please do not disseminate outside the seminar. Please avoid printing as far as possible.

1. discussion texts


other texts:


2. general reference texts


3. suggested additional readings (not available in the reader):


**General course information**

**Topic**

The seminar is devoted to understanding the nature of conflicts in urban planning and development. Against the background of the contentious political nature of urban development, the seminar offers elements for analyzing and for learning to deal with urban planning and development conflicts.

The reason for choosing conflict as the focus of the seminar is twofold. On the one hand, there is an obvious actual relevance to the subject, which requires analysis and awareness especially for professionals involved. On the other hand, the seminar is based on the conviction that a critical-interpretative approach to conflict offers a crucial perspective for understanding the political nature of urban development and planning. For both these reasons, looking at urban planning ‘through the lens of conflict’ represents a fruitful perspective both for critical planning theory and for a critical planning practice.

This means that the seminar is of interest not only for students who are willing to directly deal with conflicts in research and in practice, but also for students who are interested in developing a critical understanding of the conditions of their profession.

The seminar approaches the topic on an interdisciplinary basis, in particular combining three specific areas of theorizing and research:

- the meaning and role of conflict in democratic politics and society (with references to the discussions conducted in our previous seminar ‘Planning as Political Process I’);
- the specific nature of conflicts in urban development and planning;
- the dynamics of contentious politics and social mobilization.

**Activities**

The activities of the seminar depend on the modes of online communication foreseen for each meeting (for reference, see course calendar):

- input meetings followed by online plenary discussion;
- online plenary meetings devoted to discussions and presentations;
- online forums.

Specific tasks can be provided on ad-hoc basis for plenary discussions and online forums.

In addition, students are required to perform activities based on a catalogue of assignments (relevant for final assessment):

**Assignments - and related deadlines:**

Assignments are based on:

a. developing an individual knowledge interest concerning the topic,

b. developing general questions concerning the topic, and

c. identifying and analyzing relevant empirical cases for addressing these questions.

This process will progressively move from individual to group work and will lead to performing a group assignment, to be presented in the final part of the seminar.
Assignment 1 (individual), for discussion on 28.04 (part 1) and 05.05 (part 2):
- please browse through the course literature, choose one text (or more) from those listed under block 1 ‘discussion texts’ (see above), and comment on the aspect(s) which you consider most interesting and worth exploring from your personal point of view (personal reflections/comments only: no summary of the text!)
To be expressed in writing (s. template, approx. 500 words) and uploaded (as PDF) on the ISIS course on the appropriate date, respectively before 27.04 and 04.05, 14.00 h.

Assignment 2 (individual), for discussion on 26.05:
- please reflect on the inputs and discussions heard so far and (possibly with the help of texts from the seminar literature) express the general question(s) concerning planning conflicts which you consider most interesting and worth exploring
To be expressed in writing (s. template, approx. 1000 words) and uploaded (as PDF) on the ISIS course on the appropriate date, before 25.05, 14.00 h.

Assignment 3 (group), for discussion on 16.06:
- building on your previous individual assignments, please form a group (max. 5 participants) based on your shared knowledge interests: please formulate the general question(s) concerning planning conflicts which you agree to be most interesting and worth exploring, and please indicate the relevant case(s) which you are considering in order to address this (these) question(s).
To be expressed in form of a written exposée (s. template, approx. 1000 words) containing abovementioned elements and the list of group participants, and uploaded (as PDF) on the ISIS course on the appropriate date, before 15.06, 14.00 h.

Assignment 4 (group), for presentation on date to be defined (30.06-14.07):
- please present the main findings of your group’s work
To be presented at an online meeting (date to be defined), using a PowerPoint presentation in ‘screen-sharing’ mode. PowerPoint (as PDF) to be uploaded on the ISIS course on the appropriate date, before 14.00 h of day before scheduled presentation.
Alternatively, a written paper may be submitted before 14.07.

Language: English.

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

Additional learning resources

All seminar resources including this syllabus, (selected) literature sources and comments/communications are made available on a dedicated ISIS 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 seminar meetings (groups / individual) weighting: 50%
- essay / written report (groups) weighting: 50%

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

The seminar is part of Module M4 Planning Theory A (6 ECTS).
For detailed evaluation and grading rules, please refer to description of Module M4 Planning Theory A.
Consultations hour

Consultation hour (normally: Tuesday, 9:00-10:00 h, ISR, Room B 219) is suspended during university lockdown. Participants are welcome to make an appointment for an online consultation (email or meet@ISIS video chat) concerning this seminar on Monday afternoons.