

Course Announcement IGS North-South

Autumn Semester 2012

Disciplinary and thematic modules

University of Basel

swisspeace - [Doctoral Programme North-South \(DONOS\)](#)

Seminar: Interdisciplinary perspectives on North-South research

The interdisciplinary research seminar of the Doctoral programme North-South (DONOS) serves as a platform for exchange and discussion for DONOS PhD students and their supervisors. On the basis of the PhD students' work, epistemological, theoretical and methodological issues related to North-South research will be addressed.

3 ECTS

[Details](#)

The Other in our Mind: Representations of the South in Western Political Thought

Relations between North and South are structured around a conception of the Other as different, sometimes even as radically different. This difference calls for intervention, regulation, management, containment. Based on these assumptions the aim of the seminar is to discern in a first step how difference and deviance have always been at the center of the preoccupation of liberal thought. Following classic Foucauldian texts it will be shown, which mechanisms liberal thought has produced to regulate difference and deviance. Questions which are touched upon are the role which alterity plays for identity and the issue of universalism. These considerations play also a key role for post-colonial theory, which disclosed how similar mechanisms have been applied to deal with the Other beyond the borders of the liberal community. In this second step, the seminar will disclose the imprint which Foucauldian thought left in post-colonial writings. In a third and final steps, the seminar will approach the question to which degree these issues are still pertinent in the development discourse. Following post-development approaches, the preoccupation with difference and eurocentric assumptions continue to play a pivotal role in structuring the relations between North and South.

3 ECTS

[Details](#)

Seminar: Islamic Transnationalism

This course will explore different processes of transnationalization in the Islamic context. We will look at fields such as education, politics, Islamic law and youth cultures which are shaped by transnational actors and/or are negotiated in transnational spaces. Furthermore, we will examine specific Islamic discourses that frame the patterns of interpretation and provide agency scripts in these fields.

3 ECTS

[Details](#)

Swiss TPH

Seminar: Interdisciplinary Seminar

The course provides a platform to discuss current research topic in the biology of infection and epidemiology, emphasizing the iterative process between the field and laboratory-based research. Based on recently published articles, the participants familiarize with the interdependence of the field and laboratory-based research. The research papers will be presented by students (possibly complemented by general or basic principles presented by the facilitators) followed by a group discussion.

Thursday 13:15 – 14:00; Starting date: 20.9.12

1 ECTS

[Details](#)

Seminar: Current Ecological and Health Issues in Africa

Every session consists of a student's report on a selected topic, preferably supported by a power-point presentation, followed by a detailed discussion. The report must be briefly summarized and distributed as a handout. The seminar is designed for arts and science students at MSc level. Schedule 1) Introduction, outline the framework for the course, and nomination of speakers and their topics: 21 Sept. 2012 2) Current ecological and health issues in Africa -- what did we learn? 7 Dec. 2012 3) Selection of topics covered (will be discussed in the first meeting): Dams, irrigation and schistosomiasis; Climate change and vector-borne diseases; Contamination of human breast milk with pesticides; sources and mitigation measures; Integration of neglected tropical disease control programmes; Malaria and malaria control; Urban health; The Okavango insecticide spraying campaign; nothing learnt from former lessons?; Pesticide use in developing countries; environmental and human health risks; Does the improvement of cattle health cause the disruption of key ecological processes? Economic crisis, food crises and health Genetically-modified crops -- to do or not to do

Friday 14:15 – 16:00; Starting date: 21.9.12 2 ECTS

2 ECTS

[Details](#)

Lecture: Ecology of Infectious disease at the Human-Animal interface

Environmental effects on the risk of infectious disease are not new. Micro- and Macro Parasites share many fundamental properties with humans and animals. Hence an ecological perspective is appropriate for the understanding and control of infectious diseases. Ecological thinking recognizes the importance of fundamental physical, chemical and biological processes affect the survival and reproduction all living organisms. These include evolutionary, social, economic and political processes. Theoretical lectures and peer group work are interlinked with presentations from the ongoing research projects on avian influenza, rabies, bovine tuberculosis, brucellosis and anthrax of the human and animal health research group at the Swiss Tropical Institute.

Tuesday 8:15 – 10:00; Starting date: 18.9.2012

2 ECTS

[Details](#)

University of Bern

Centre for Development and Environment

Seminar on Sustainable Development: Land Grabbing – new trends and debates

This seminar focuses on the complex, global phenomenon of large-scale land acquisitions in countries of the South through foreign investors – also known as "land grabbing" in the context of policy debates within development work. International investments in land for the production of goods for international markets have existed since colonial times. In the context of the global financial and food crises as well as rising oil prices, large swathes of land in Africa, South America, and Asia have changed hands in the past years. Investors include institutions, but also rising industrial countries such as China, South Korea, and the Gulf States – but also South Africa – which want to secure their food production in the long term. (Event together with the Institute of Social Anthropology).

Course language: German

Register via Ilias: 20. - 24.8.12 (If you do not have an Ilias account, send an email to igs-north-south@cde.unibe.ch no later than 17 August 2012)

Wednesday 12:15-14:00; Start date: 19.9.12

5 ECTS (a seminar paper has to be written)

Natural resources, sustainable land management and ecosystem services

The course focuses on the state-of-the-art knowledge and concepts of natural resources, sustainable land management (SLM), and ecosystem services. This includes methods of monitoring and assessment, the role of and opportunities for SLM in adapting to and mitigating environmental threats, and approaches to identifying and negotiating ecosystem services. The course is taught through lectures, exercises, and discussions on concepts and methods. Learning outcomes:

1. Students obtain a basic understanding of the state-of-the-art knowledge and concepts of natural resources, sustainable land management, and ecosystem services
2. Awareness of the methods and challenges of monitoring and assessment of natural resources, ecosystems, and SLM
3. Awareness of the challenges to SLM/role of SLM in adapting to and mitigating environmental threats (such as climate change, disasters, water conflicts).
4. Awareness of the concepts of ecosystem services and methods to identify, quantify, and negotiate these

Block course: 6. – 8.11.2012

Please register no later than 30 September 2012 by sending an email to:

igs-north-south@cde.unibe.ch

1.5 ECTS

[Details](#)

University of Zurich

Development Study Group Zurich

Graduate School Retreat

Professor Stuart Lane from the University of Lausanne will be our guest. He is well known not only for his work in geomorphology and hydrology, but also for his efforts to work with colleagues from human geography. Registration for the event will open soon.

Block course: 22. – 23.11.2012

1 + 1 ECTS

[Details](#)

Promotionsseminar 1

As always, in autumn Promotionsseminar 1 will run. If you are doing a PhD and are in the Graduate School in Geography, you should participate in this obligatory course. If you have new colleagues, please forward this mail to them and tell them to get in touch with me.

Monday 16:15 – 18:00; Starting date: 17.9.12, every second week

1 ECTS

[Details](#)