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| Who: | Jozef Zelinka - doctoral candidate |
| What: | <i>Modern Normative Political Theory</i> - Seminar course |
| When: | Thursday 8-10 a.m. - Winter Term 2014 |
| Where: | Room 100.107 - Scharnhorststraße 100 |
| Why: | <p>As commonly known, discussion builds a framework for establishing and developing political reality. The purpose of the seminar, therefore, is to practice and evolve the critical thinking of the participants by discussing the challenges of contemporary political issues, such as identity, norm, freedom, ethics, and so on. Consequently, a set of questions arises when talking about these issues (let's say about norms) from different theoretical views - Do we need norms? Why do we need norms? Who should define them? Why should someone define them? Why do we even talk about norms? To get clear about such questions, the course assumes both individual and collective engagement, whereby a self-preparation is highly required. During the lessons, participants will discuss a chosen topic (e.g. identity) within two groups arguing from different positions (e.g. liberal vs. structuralist), so that afterwards a debate in-between them could take place. Emphasizing on the distinctions among the variety of theoretical approaches, participants are conducted to build their methodological approach upon a discursive practice. Thus, enhancing the readiness of participants to express their political views, to argue in the face of critical responds and finally to derive optimal conclusions is of a vital interest of the course. This not only helps to advance the argumentative competences necessary for the ongoing study program, but also offers crucial skills for involving in different kinds of political activities. And that's what makes all the difference.</p> |
| Preconditions: | <p>Completing of the basic course "Introduction to the Political Theory"</p> <p>Basic English skills (The lecture is offered in English)</p> |
| Evaluation: | Two essays on chosen topic (5-8 pages), with three possible time-variants of submitting them during the semester: (i) on your own decision; (ii) in two flexible terms; (iii) in two fixed terms. |
| Readings: | During the semester, participants will be provided with the necessary materials (i.e. books, articles, videos, interviews, commentaries and so on) regarding to the specific term that has to be discussed. |