

School of Social Sciences
Chair of Political Science,
Political Psychology
Professor Dr. Harald Schoen



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A5,6, Room A328
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HWS 2021

Proseminar:

**Einführung in die Politische Soziologie:
Why we get involved: Political Participation in Transition**

Time and Place: Tuesdays, 10:15 am, A5, 6 Room B143

Start: 06. September 2023

Content

Political participation is essential for democratic systems. It serves to articulate political will, but also to legitimise the political system. In this seminar, we will approach the topic of political participation from different angles. The seminar is divided into three thematic blocks: First, we will deal with the question: What is political participation and why is it important for democratic systems? Then we will look at the determinants of political participation. Here we will refer to socio-economic explanations, the Civic Voluntarism Model, Rational Choice, and political institutions as determinants of political participation. Finally, we will look at political participation in transition. What new forms of political participation are emerging? How does digital media influence political participation? The seminar will focus on classical literature, but will also take up current developments in participation research.

Language: This seminar will be held in English, but students may choose to submit their written assignments in either English or German.

Special Needs: If you require support in order to ensure your success in my course for any reason, please feel free to contact me! I will gladly make reasonable accommodation to facilitate a better learning experience for everyone.

Recommended for: B.A. Political Science, 3rd Semester

ECTS-Points: 5

Requirements (ungraded): Preparation of the mandatory readings, preparation of in-class group-work for one session, submission of research question, peer-feedback on research question, submission of a convincing exposé

Requirements (graded): Term paper (4500 words \pm 10%)

Registration via the student portal: <https://portal2.uni-mannheim.de>

Office Hour: Monday, 14:00–15:30, virtually or in person, by appointment

Requirements

In this seminar we will aim towards giving you an overview over the most important concepts and theories in the field of political participation, giving you the ability to critically discuss these theories and concepts, enabling you to lead scientific discussions and justify your positions in relation to the topic, and teaching you how to write scientific papers under guidance. For this purpose, each session comes with two mandatory readings students are expected to read prior to the sessions. Additionally, the readings for this course include different methodological pitches which are concerned with different aspects of a research paper. In the session, we will focus and critically evaluate these respective aspects of the mandatory readings.

For passing the seminar, **reading and preparation of the mandatory literature** as well as **active oral participation** in the discussions in the seminar are essential. Further, each participant will **prepare an in-class group-work** for one of the sessions. These group works engage with the mandatory literature and lay a focus on the aspects of the paper addressed in that week's method pitch. The preparation of the group-work will be done in groups of 2-3 participants. It is mandatory, to come to my **office hours** to discuss your ideas for the group-work **at least one week prior**.

In preparation for the term paper, each participant will submit a **research question** (Deadline: 09.10.2023, 23:59) and then give **feedback on the research questions of two of their peers** (Deadline: 23.10.2023, 23:59). Subsequently, an **exposé** with a short explanation of the research project (maximum 2 pages) is to be uploaded in PDF format to ILIAS by 13.11.2023, 23:59.

Lastly, each participant writes a **term paper** (Deadline: 21.01.2024, 23:59). It is based on a self-selected research question related to political participation. The term paper includes an introduction with a positioning of the research question in an existing problem of the research field, a theory part with a short literature review, hypotheses derived from the theory, an explanation of the research design and a short conclusion. The paper does not include any statistical or qualitative analysis.

Information on in-class group work:

The in-class group-work is supposed to engage with the mandatory literature for the week, as well as the aspects of a research paper targeted in the methods pitch for that week. Each group-work should start with you presenting the task as well as shortly introducing the topic of the methods pitch your group-work engages with. The group-work should end with a plenary discussion. In total, the group work is intended to take approximately 45 minutes, including the concluding discussion. For the group preparing the in-class group work, it is **mandatory to come to my office hours at least one week prior** to the respective session.

The allocation of the teams for the preparation of the in-class group works is managed via this Google-Doc.

General Ideas:

- Identification of relevant text passages in the readings
- Discussion of the presentation of [arguments / use of literature / discussion of results / ...] in the readings
- Reformulation of [Research Question / Hypotheses / ...]
- Identification of limitations
- Comparison of studies with respect to the [topic / method] of the session
- Discussion of implications of the research papers beyond their respective research questions
- Development of alternative [theories / research designs / hypotheses / ...]
- ...

Assignments and Deadlines

1. Preparation of in-class group-work
 - Mandatory office hour at least one week prior to in-class group-work
2. Research Question
 - Submit your Research Question as PDF via ILIAS by October 9, 2023, 23:59
 - You can formulate a research question and provide up to half a page of further explanations.
3. Peer-Feedback on Research Question
 - Submit your Feedback as individual PDFs via ILIAS by October 23, 2023, 23:59
 - Provide constructive feedback to two other students' research questions (approx. 200 words each).
4. Exposé

- Submit your Exposé as PDF via ILIAS by November 13, 2023, 23:59
- Briefly formulate and justify your research question. Lay out brief theoretical considerations and a research design.

5. Term Paper

- Submit your term paper as PDF via ILIAS by January 21, 2024, 23:59
- Scope: 4500 words \pm 10% (approx. 12-15 pages)

Composition of the grade:

Research paper: 100%

A term paper may only be submitted if every single other partial requirements has been passed, otherwise the seminar is not passed:

- Oral participation
- Preparation of group-work
- Submission of a research question
- Submission of constructive peer-feedback
- Submission of a convincing exposé

Composition of the ECTS points

You will receive 5 ECTS points for successful completion of the course. This corresponds to a workload of 150 hours:

13× Participation in the seminar	à 1.5 hours	19.5 hours
11× Preparation and follow-up of the substantive sessions	à 3 hours	33.0 hours
1× Preparation of in-class group-work	à 8 hours	8.0 hours
1× Research question	à 2.5 hours	2.5 hours
1× Peer-feedback on research question	à 2 hours	2.0 hours
1× Exposé	à 10 hours	10.0 hours
1× Preparing and writing the term paper	à 75 hours	75.0 hours
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Total		150.0 hours

Course schedule

Session 1 (05.09.2023): Introduction

Mandatory Literature:

Van Deth, Jan W. (2016). “What Is Political Participation?” In: *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press. DOI: 10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.68. URL: <https://oxfordre.com/politics/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.001.0001/acrefore-9780190228637-e-68> (visited on 08/23/2023)

Session 2 (12.09.2023): Democracy and Political Participation

Mandatory Literature:

Dahl, Robert Alan (1971). *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*. New Haven: Yale University Press, Chapter 1

Dassonneville, Ruth, Marc Hooghe, and Peter Miller (2017). “The Impact of Compulsory Voting on Inequality and the Quality of the Vote”. In: *West European Politics* 40.3, pages 621–644. DOI: 10.1080/01402382.2016.1266187. URL: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01402382.2016.1266187>

Further Literature:

Engelen, Bart (2007). “Why Compulsory Voting Can Enhance Democracy”. In: *Acta Politica* 42.1, pages 23–39. DOI: 10.1057/palgrave.ap.5500167. URL: <http://link.springer.com/10.1057/palgrave.ap.5500167>

Faas, Thorsten (2012). “Thinking about Wahlpflicht: Anmerkungen Zu Einer Überfälligen Diskussion”. In: *Zeitschrift für Politikwissenschaft* 22.3, pages 407–418. DOI: 10.5771/1430-6387-2012-3-407. URL: <http://www.nomos-elibrary.de/index.php?doi=10.5771/1430-6387-2012-3-407>

Tilly, Charles (2007). *Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. DOI: 10.1017/CB09780511804922. URL: <http://ebooks.cambridge.org/ref/id/CB09780511804922>, Chapter 1

Session 3 (19.09.2023): Forms and Functions of Political Participation

Mandatory Literature:

Van Deth, Jan W. (2014). “A Conceptual Map of Political Participation”. In: *Acta Politica* 49.3, pages 349–367. DOI: 10.1057/ap.2014.6

Gundelach, Birte (2020). “Political Consumerism as a Form of Political Participation: Challenges and Potentials of Empirical Measurement”. In: *Social Indicators Research* 151.1, pages 309–327. DOI: 10.1007/s11205-020-02371-2. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-020-02371-2>

02371-2

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 1 - Research Question

Further Literature:

Theocharis, Yannis and Jan W. Van Deth (2018). “The Continuous Expansion of Citizen Participation: A New Taxonomy”. In: *European Political Science Review* 10.1, pages 139–163. DOI: 10.1017/S1755773916000230

Session 4 (26.09.2023): Because they can't

Mandatory Literature:

Brady, Henry E, Sidney Verba, and Kay Lehman Schlozman (1995). “Beyond SES: A Resource Model of Political Participation”. In: *American Political Science Review* 89.2, pages 271–294. DOI: 10.2307/2082425. URL: https://www.cambridge.org/core/product/identifier/S0003055400096301/type/journal_article

Stadelmann-Steffen, Isabelle and Daniela Koller (2014). “What Type of Resources? Household Effects and Female Electoral Participation”. In: *Swiss Political Science Review* 20.4, pages 529–549. DOI: 10.1111/spsr.12125

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 2 - Literature Research

Further Literature:

Verba, Sidney and Norman H Nie (1972). *Participation in America: Political Democracy and Social Equality*. New York: Harper & Row, Chapter 6

Verba, Sidney, Kay Lehman Schlozman, and Henry E Brady (1995). *Voice and Equality: Civic Voluntarism in American Politics*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, Chapter 9, 12, 13

Schlozman, Kay Lehman, Nancy Burns, and Sidney Verba (1994). “Gender and the Pathways to Participation: The Role of Resources”. In: *Journal of Politics* 56.4, pages 963–990

German unity day (03.10.2023): Public Holiday, no session

Session 5 (10.10.2023): Because they don't want to

Mandatory Literature:

Hooghe, Marc and Sofie Marien (2013). "A Comparative Analysis of the Relation Between Political Trust and Forms of Political Participation in Europe". In: *European Societies* 15.1, pages 131–152. DOI: 10.1080/14616696.2012.692807. URL: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14616696.2012.692807>

Kurer, Thomas, Silja Häusermann, Bruno Wüest, and Matthias Enggist (2019). "Economic Grievances and Political Protest". In: *European Journal of Political Research* 58.3, pages 866–892. DOI: 10.1111/1475-6765.12318

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 3 - Theory

Further Literature:

Quintelier, Ellen and Jan W. Van Deth (2014). "Supporting Democracy: Political Participation and Political Attitudes. Exploring Causality Using Panel Data". In: *Political Studies* 62.S1, pages 153–171. DOI: 10.1111/1467-9248.12097

Barrett, Martyn and Ian Brunton-Smith (Jan. 2, 2014). "Political and Civic Engagement and Participation: Towards an Integrative Perspective". In: *Journal of Civil Society* 10.1, pages 5–28. DOI: 10.1080/17448689.2013.871911. URL: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17448689.2013.871911> (visited on 07/02/2021)

Session 6 (17.10.2023): Because nobody asked

Mandatory Literature:

Turner, Thomas, Lorraine Ryan, and Michelle O'Sullivan (2020). "Does Union Membership Matter? Political Participation, Attachment to Democracy and Generational Change". In: *European Journal of Industrial Relations* 26.3, pages 279–295. DOI: 10.1177/0959680119844926

McClurg, Scott D. (2003). "Social Networks and Political Participation: The Role of Social Interaction in Explaining Political Participation". In: *Political Research Quarterly* 56.4, pages 449–464. DOI: 10.1177/106591290305600407

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 4 - Hypotheses

Further Literature:

Campbell, David E. (2013). "Social Networks and Political Participation". In: *Annual Review of Political Science* 16, pages 33–48. DOI: 10.1146/annurev-polisci-033011-201728

Flanagan, Constance (2003). "Developmental Roots of Political Engagement". In: *Political Science and Politics* 36.02, pages 257–261. DOI: 10.1017/S104909650300218X. URL: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S104909650300218X

Session 7 (24.10.2023): Rational Choice

Mandatory Literature:

Whiteley, Paul F. (1995). "Rational Choice and Political Participation - Evaluating the Debate". In: *Political Research Quarterly* 48.1, pages 211–233. DOI: 10.1177/106591299504800112

Muñoz, Maria Murias and Bonnie M. Meguid (2021). "Does Party Polarization Mobilize or De-Mobilize Voters? The Answer Depends on Where Voters Stand". In: *Electoral Studies* 70, page 102279. DOI: 10.1016/j.electstud.2021.102279. URL: <https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S0261379421000019> (visited on 07/01/2021)

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 5 - Golden Thread

Further Literature:

If you want to get a short and brief introduction into Rational-Choice Theory:

Blais, André (2000). *To Vote or Not to Vote? The Merits and Limits of Rational Choice Theory*. Pittsburgh, Pa: University of Pittsburgh Press. 200 pages, Introduction

Downs, Anthony (1957). *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. New York: HarperCollins

Riker, William H and Peter C Ordeshook (1968). "A Theory of the Calculus of Voting". In: *The American Political Science Review* 62.1, page 19

Session 8 (31.10.2023): Electoral Institutions

Mandatory Literature:

Blais, André and R. Kenneth Carty (1990). "Does Proportional Representation Foster Voter Turnout?" In: *European Journal of Political Research* 18.2, pages 167–181. DOI: 10.1111/j.1475-6765.1990.tb00227.x. URL: <http://doi.wiley.com/10.1111/j.1475-6765.1990.tb00227.x>

Walker, Hannah L., Michael C. Herron, and Daniel A. Smith (2019). “Early Voting Changes and Voter Turnout: North Carolina in the 2016 General Election”. In: *Political Behavior* 41.4, pages 841–869. DOI: 10.1007/s11109-018-9473-5. URL: <http://link.springer.com/10.1007/s11109-018-9473-5>

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 6 - Measurement and Operationalisation

Further Literature:

Chan, Tak Wing and Matthew Clayton (2006). “Should the Voting Age Be Lowered to Sixteen? Normative and Empirical Considerations”. In: *Political Studies* 54.3, pages 533–558. DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-9248.2006.00620.x. URL: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9248.2006.00620.x>

Highton, Benjamin (1997). “Easy Registration and Voter Turnout”. In: *The Journal of Politics* 59.02, page 565. DOI: 10.2307/2998178. JSTOR: 2998178. URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2998178>

Wagner, Markus, David Johann, and Sylvia Kritzinger (2012). “Voting at 16: Turnout and the Quality of Vote Choice”. In: *Electoral Studies* 31.2, pages 372–383. DOI: 10.1016/j.electstud.2012.01.007. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.electstud.2012.01.007>

Session 9 (07.11.2023): Deliberative Democracy

Mandatory Literature:

Neblo, Michael A., Kevin M. Esterling, Ryan P. Kennedy, David M.J. Lazer, and Anand E. Sokhey (2010). “Who Wants to Deliberate and Why?” In: *American Political Science Review* 104.3, pages 566–583. DOI: 10.1017/S0003055410000298

Jacobs, Daan and Wesley Kaufmann (2019). “The Right Kind of Participation? The Effect of a Deliberative Mini-Public on the Perceived Legitimacy of Public Decision-Making”. In: *Public Management Review* 00.00, pages 1–21. DOI: 10.1080/14719037.2019.1668468. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14719037.2019.1668468>

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 7 - Case Selection

Further Literature:

For a short introduction to deliberative democracy:

Elster, Jon (1998). “Introduction”. In: *Deliberative Democracy*. Edited by Jon Elster. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pages 1–18

Session 10 (14.11.2023): Participation in Change

Mandatory Literature:

Whiteley, Paul F. (2011). “Is the Party over? The Decline of Party Activism and Membership across the Democratic World”. In: *Party Politics* 17.1, pages 21–44. DOI: 10.1177/1354068810365505

Wallis, Hannah and Laura S. Loy (Apr. 2021). “What Drives Pro-Environmental Activism of Young People? A Survey Study on the Fridays For Future Movement”. In: *Journal of Environmental Psychology* 74, page 101581. DOI: 10.1016/j.jenvp.2021.101581. URL: <https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S0272494421000347> (visited on 07/12/2021)

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 8 - Methods

Further Literature:

Weiss, Julia (2020). “What Is Youth Political Participation? Literature Review on Youth Political Participation and Political Attitudes”. In: *Frontiers in Political Science* 2. DOI: 10.3389/fpos.2020.00001

Dalton, Russell J (2008). “Citizenship Norms and the Expansion of Political Participation”. In: *Political Studies* 56.1, pages 76–98. DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-9248.2007.00718.x. URL: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9248.2007.00718.x>

Parvin, Phil (2018). “Democracy Without Participation: A New Politics for a Disengaged Era”. In: *Res Publica* 24.1, pages 31–52. DOI: 10.1007/s11158-017-9382-1. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11158-017-9382-1>

Marien, Sofie, Marc Hooghe, and Ellen Quintelier (2010). “Inequalities in Non-Institutionalised Forms of Political Participation: A Multi-Level Analysis of 25 Countries”. In: *Political Studies* 58.1, pages 187–213. DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-9248.2009.00801.x

Session 11 (21.11.2023): Digital Forms of Participation

Mandatory Literature:

Visser, Sara and Dietlind Stolle (2014). “The Internet and New Modes of Political Participation: Online versus Offline Participation”. In: *Information Communication and Society* 17.8, pages 937–955. DOI: 10.1080/1369118X.2013.867356

Moreno-Almeida, Cristina (2021). “Memes as Snapshots of Participation: The Role of Digital Amateur Activists in Authoritarian Regimes”. In: *New Media & Society* 23.6, pages 1545–1566. DOI: 10.1177/1461444820912722. URL: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1461444820912722> (visited on 06/30/2021)

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 9 - Results

Further Literature:

For a general conceptualisation of (digital) political participation:

Theocharis, Yannis (2015). “The Conceptualization of Digitally Networked Participation”. In: *Social Media and Society* 1.2. DOI: 10.1177/2056305115610140

Oser, Jennifer, Marc Hooghe, and Sofie Marien (2013). “Is Online Participation Distinct from Offline Participation? A Latent Class Analysis of Participation Types and Their Stratification”. In: *Political Research Quarterly* 66.1, pages 91–101. DOI: 10.1177/1065912912436695

Bennett, W. Lance (2012). “The Personalization of Politics: Political Identity, Social Media, and Changing Patterns of Participation”. In: *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 644.1, pages 20–39. DOI: 10.1177/0002716212451428

Session 12 (28.11.2023): Social Media effects

Mandatory Literature:

Boulianne, Shelley (2020). “Twenty Years of Digital Media Effects on Civic and Political Participation”. In: *Communication Research* 47.7, pages 947–966. DOI: 10.1177/0093650218808186

Baumgartner, Jody C and Brad Lockerbie (2018). “Maybe It Is More Than a Joke: Satire, Mobilization, and Political Participation”. In: *Social Science Quarterly* 99.3, pages 1060–1074. DOI: 10.1111/ssqu.12501. URL: <http://doi.wiley.com/10.1111/ssqu.12501>

Methods Pitch:

Pitch 10 - Conclusion and Limitations

Further Literature:

Jost, John T., Pablo Barberá, Richard Bonneau, Melanie Langer, Megan Metzger, Jonathan Nagler, Joanna Sterling, and Joshua A. Tucker (2018). “How Social Media Facilitates Political Protest: Information, Motivation, and Social Networks: Social Media and Political Protest”. In: *Political Psychology* 39, pages 85–118. DOI: 10.1111/pops.12478. URL: <http://doi.wiley.com/10.1111/pops.12478>

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Boulianne, Shelley (2015). "Social Media Use and Participation: A Meta-Analysis of Current Research". In: *Information Communication and Society* 18.5, pages 524–538. DOI: 10.1080/1369118X.2015.1008542. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2015.1008542>

Lane, Daniel S., Dam Hee Kim, Slgi S. Lee, Brian E. Weeks, and Nojin Kwak (2017). "From Online Disagreement to Offline Action: How Diverse Motivations for Using Social Media Can Increase Political Information Sharing and Catalyze Offline Political Participation". In: *Social Media + Society* 3.3, page 205630511771627. DOI: 10.1177/2056305117716274. URL: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/2056305117716274>

Lilleker, Darren G. and Karolina Koc-Michalska (2017). "What Drives Political Participation? Motivations and Mobilization in a Digital Age". In: *Political Communication* 34.1, pages 21–43. DOI: 10.1080/10584609.2016.1225235. URL: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10584609.2016.1225235>

Session 13 (05.12.2023): All good things come to an end

Mandatory Literature:

Baglione, Lisa A. (2012). *Writing a Research Paper in Political Science*. London: Sage Publications, Chapter 1

Methods Pitches:

Pitch 11 - Data Sources

Pitch 12 - Citation and Writing Style