



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2022

6,322: Spring Project: Conflicts in Africa

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Group examination paper with presentation (all given the same grades) (100%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[6,322,1.00 Spring Project: Conflicts in Africa](#) -- Englisch -- [Schaudt Paul Maximilian](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

The spring project should be taken after all other courses have been completed. Prior knowledge of statistics and or econometrics is strongly recommended.

Learning objectives

- In this course students will:
 - Critically engage with the current state of the art of conflict research.
 - Learn the basics of spatial data processing and analysis.
 - Formulate their own research question.
 - Design their own research using the methods discussed and tested in the course.
 - Combine spatial methods together with social scientific and/or legal research methods in with to answer their research question.
 - Formulate the results of their studies/research in a clear, logical & precise manner.

Course content

This Spring Project will focus on the determinants (e.g., grievances, looting natural resources) and consequences (e.g., forced migration, lower growth rates) of armed conflict across Africa. We will focus on the spatial analysis of conflict. Hence, we will discuss papers that employ spatial data and methods to analyses the determinants and consequences of armed conflict. Furthermore, students will be trained the basics of processing and analyzing the spatial data themselves.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course will be held weekly and consists of lectures (mainly till the break) and exercises in which students will be trained in software to process and analysis spatial data. In the second part of the course (after the break) students will engage more and more in analysis the data that they learned to process and develop their own research project.

Course literature

- Lovelace, R. Nowosad, J., and J. Muenchow. 2018. Geocomputation with R. CRC Press: <https://geocompr.robinlovelace.net>
- Groelund, G. and H. Wickham.2018. R for Data Science. O'Reilly: <http://r4ds.had.co.nz>
- Farnsworth, G.V., 2008, Econometrics in R: <https://cran.r-project.org/doc/contrib/Farnsworth-EconometricsInR.pdf>

Additional course information



In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in SpS2021, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course will move to online and be conducted via the online platform Zoom.
- The course will be recorded and recordings will be available for 30 days from date posted.
- Should there be any changed implementation modalities of the course the lecturer will inform students via Canvas & email.
- There are no changes to the examination information with the exception that group presentations will be conducted online.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Group examination paper with presentation (all given the same grades) (100%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Allowed group sizes 1 - 5 students.

Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Written work must be written without outside help according to the known citation standards, and a declaration of authorship must be attached, which is available as a template on the StudentWeb.

Documentation (quotations, bibliography, etc.) must be carried out universally and consistently according to the requirements of the chosen/specified citation standard such as e.g. APA or MLA.

The legal standard is recommended for legal work (cf. by way of example: FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R., SCHINDLER B., Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende (the latest edition in each case), or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The reference sources of information (paraphrases, quotations, etc.) that has been taken over literally or in the sense of the original text must be integrated into the text in accordance with the requirements of the citation standard used. Informative and bibliographical notes must be included as footnotes (recommendations and standards e.g. in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien (latest edition)).

For all written work at the University of St.Gallen, the indication of page numbers is mandatory, regardless of the standard chosen. Where page numbers are missing in sources, the precise designation must be made differently: chapter or section title, section number, article, etc.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

Term papers are to be written in groups of 1 to 5 students. The goal is to use the techniques acquired in the course to answer a



research question developed by the groups and connected to the theme of the course. Each group will present their question and approach in the second part of the course.

Examination relevant literature

All materials covered in course:

- Lovelace, R. Nowosad, J., and J. Muenchow. 2018. Geocomputation with R. CRC Press: <https://geocompr.robinlovelace.net>
- Groelmund, G. and H. Wickham. 2018. R for Data Science. O'Reilly: <http://r4ds.had.co.nz>
- Farnsworth, G.V., 2008, Econometrics in R: <https://cran.r-project.org/doc/contrib/Farnsworth-EconometricsInR.pdf>

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 12 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 27 January 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 21 March 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 21 March 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 11 April 2022).