

Accademia Fiesolana

Compulsory seminar for first-year researchers, 14 – 24 September 2021

Accademia Fiesolana is the SPS Department's introductory department seminar. Its objectives are to lay the groundwork for thinking about your own (and others') research as well as to become familiar with the research done in the SPS department. The seminar is compulsory for first year researchers.

The first part consists of three seminar meetings. We start with discussing how to identify and ask a research question that can contribute to a broader body of literature, is clearly defined, is answerable, and is something you want to spend four years working on. Then we move on to thinking about how to select an appropriate method for the research questions being asked and some philosophical foundations of political and social scientific analysis. We will also discuss ethical issues in political and social scientific research.

The second part consists of five seminar meetings, in which the faculty members of the department introduce their research by focusing on how their work relates to a broader problem in the political and social sciences.

Schedule

Asking an effective research question

14 September, 13:00 – 14:30 Refectory Room
Professors: Juho Härkönen & Simon Hix

Research questions, method choice, and philosophical foundations

14 September, 14:30 – 16:00 Refectory Room
Professors: Jeffrey Checkel & Miriam Golden

Ethical issues in the political and social sciences

16 September, 14:00 – 15:30 Refectory Room
Professors: Miriam Golden

Welfare state and political economy

17 September, 14:00 – 15:30 Refectory Room
Professors: Ellen Immergut, Anton Hemerijck & Philipp Genschel

International relations and security

21 September, 14:00 – 15:30 Refectory Room
Professors: Jeffrey Checkel & Stephanie Hofmann

Analytical sociology

22 September, **16:30 – 18:00** Refectory Room
Professors: Klarita Gërkhani & Arnout van der Rijt

Inequality and social demography

23 September, **13:30 – 15:00 Refectory Room**
Professors: Fabrizio Bernardi & Juho Härkönen

Comparative politics and political behaviour

24 September, 14:00 – 15:30 Refectory Room
Professors: Elias Dinas, Miriam Golden & Simon Hix