

# Academic courses for international students

## Fall semester 2017

Please register on KSL: [www.ksl.unibe.ch](http://www.ksl.unibe.ch)

All courses will be held in English, further information on KSL.

### Tackling Climate Change: From Science to International Policy

Prof. Dr. Christoph Raible, Faculty of Science  
Prof. Dr. Joëlle de Sépibus  
Dr. Denica Bozhinova, Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research (OCCR)  
Sébastien Duyck, Institute for European and Economic Law – all are from University of Bern

This course provides a multidisciplinary introduction to climate change and climate governance. The lecture is structured in three parts. The first part focuses on natural sciences related to climate change; the second part introduces political aspects relevant for international climate policy. The third part is an interactive block seminar during which the students will simulate a session of the UN climate negotiations, representing the position of a country in the process established by the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement.

Every Wednesday from 18/09 to 13/12 2017, 12:15-14:00, room tba., 5 ECTS. Room tba. The block courses will take place on half days tba.

### Conflict Resolution: Rights, Resistance & Justice

Lecturer: Dr. Katja Seidel  
Universität Wien

This course introduces students to a diversity of issues dealing with conflict resolution, trauma, reconciliation and political violence. It will equally address human rights and their relation with and applicability to the practices of justice and jurisdiction. Specifically, the course looks at international transitional justice models and their meanings in several given localities. Truth commissions, extra legal practices of resistance, and local as well as universal justice mechanisms are central themes.

Every other Wednesday, from 27/09 to 20/12 2017, 12:15-16:00, room tba., 5 ECTS

### Introduction to the Swiss Political System

Lecturer: Dr. Sean Müller, Institute of Political Science, University of Bern

This course introduces students to the basic institutions, processes and actors of the Swiss political system(s). Priority will be given to the four “bedrocks” of Swiss politics: direct democracy (initiatives and referenda), consensual decision-making (proportionality and collegialism), federalism (cantons and communes), and the multi-party system. Throughout the course, comparison will be made with how the same or at least conceptually equivalent institutions, processes and actors operate within the 26 Swiss cantons.

Every Thursday (starting on 21/09 2017, ending on 21/12 2017), 16:00-18:00, room B 201, building vonRoll (Fabrikstrasse 6), 4 ECTS

### Religious Extremism: Theological and Contemporary Critical Perspectives

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Dr. Douglas Pratt, Professor of Religious Studies, Waikato University, New Zealand, and Adjunct research Professor in the Department for Old Catholic Theology, University of Bern

This course will introduce students to contemporary issues of religious fundamentalism and extremism. Analyses by theologians and scholars of religion will form the core. There will be opportunity to focus on European contexts and issues. Particular attention will be paid to forms of Jewish, Christian and Islamic extremism and to contemporary reactive co-radicalization and Islamophobia. This course will be of interest to students from all fields, not only theology and interreligious studies.

Every Thursday, 19/09 2017-22/12 2017, 16.15-18.00, room tba., 4 ECTS

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