

Course Name	Intermediate: Introduction to Happiness Studies		
Semester, Year	Second Semester, 2018	Number of Credits	2 credits
Course level	2000	Course Number	27077
Instructor(s) (Institution)	HOMMERICH CAROLA (大学院文学研究科)		
Course Objectives	<p>Happiness Studies is a new field of scholarship which has gained much attention over the past two decades. Triggered by the insight that economic growth does not result in higher levels of well-being once a certain baseline of wealth is passed (the so-called Easterlin paradox), economists, sociologists and psychologist have joined forces to find out what makes individuals and societies happy.</p> <p>In this class, I will introduce you to different concepts of well-being and discuss with you to what extent objective and subjective measures for individual and societal happiness can be an indicator for the quality of a society. We will compare different societies and analyze how culture impacts on understandings of happiness. Last but not least, we will discuss what the role of happiness can be for public policy.</p>		
Course Goals	<p>You will learn basic concepts of well-being and achieve an awareness of measurement difficulties, both with regard to the complexity of the concept as well as to international comparison. This will enable you to accurately interpret results of studies on well-being often presented in the media. By the end of the semester you will be familiar with the most recent research on individual and societal happiness, and be able to judge its merit for evaluating the quality of a society.</p>		
Course Schedule	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Happiness Studies ? Introduction to a new field of research</li> <li>2. Does money make us happy? The Easterlin paradox</li> <li>3. Concepts of well-being I: Quality of Life</li> <li>4. Concepts of well-being II: Subjective Well-being, Life satisfaction</li> <li>5. How to measure happiness?</li> <li>6. Does culture matter? Happiness in different cultural contexts</li> <li>7. Why happiness as an indicator for the quality of a society? Positive side-effects of happiness.</li> <li>8. Documentary</li> <li>9. The World Happiness Report</li> <li>10. What makes us happy: Impact of macro and micro characteristics on well-being</li> <li>11. What makes us unhappy: Why inequality reduces happiness</li> <li>12. From individual to aggregate happiness</li> <li>13. Are happy societies better societies?</li> <li>14. Happiness and public policy</li> <li>15. Final discussion</li> </ol>		
Homework	<p>There will be some introductory readings, which will be uploaded to the course homepage at the beginning of the semester.</p>		
Grading System	<p>Students will be graded based on a class presentation and a final paper to be written on the topic of their presentation, as well as on their class attendance and participation in class/group discussions.</p> <p>You should not miss class unexcused more than two times.</p> <p>Attendance + class room participation: 20%</p> <p>Class presentation: 40%</p> <p>Final report: 40%</p>		
Textbooks / Reading List	<p>I will upload class readings to the course homepage. I will explain this at the beginning of the semester. Introductory readings will be uploaded on the course homepage at the beginning of the semester.</p>		
Websites	<p>To be announced in the first session.</p>		
Website of Laboratory			
Additional Information	<p>Do not worry about making mistakes in English. This is a sociology class, not an English class. The main point is to try to express what you want to say, not whether your English is correct.</p>		