

## **Democracy and Governance (Political Theory)**

2 hours; Tuesday 4:15 PM to 5:45 PM; Room 169

Many different actors influence political decisions: states, private business, NGOs, pressure groups, international organizations. Political science can judge how democratic states are. But can other actors be democratic, too? And how does this change our understanding of democracy? In the manner of history of ideas, this seminar we will look at the changing meaning of the term “democracy”; we analyze examples and best practice models of democratic participation at local administrative units, in factories, in social movements, and in international organizations; eventually we will discuss alternative concepts like “Empowered Participatory Governance” and “Horizontalidad”. Our goal is to develop a reflective and critical understanding of democracy in times of global governance.

**Literature:** Saage, R.: Demokratietheorien. Historischer Prozess, theoretische Entwicklung, soziotechnische Bedingungen. Wiesbaden: 2005; Fung, A./Wright, E. O. (ed.): Deepening Democracy: Institutional Innovations in Empowered Participatory Governance. London/New York: 2003; Sitrin, M. (ed.): Horizontalism. Oakland/Edinburgh: 2006.