

## **GV225: Public Choice and Politics**

*(2 terms, undergraduate level, optional for various BSc programmes and General Course students)*

*Course convenors:* Torun Dewan, Valentino Larcinese, Joachim Wehner and Andreas Warntjen

This course is concerned with public choice theory as it applies to the study of political conflicts, political issues, political institutions and policy analysis. The course covers the main tools for the study of public choice (rational decision-making theory, game theory, social choice theory) and a number of both theoretical and applied topics, including the empirical study of institutions.

This course will cover the main topics in institutional public choice including electoral competition and voting behaviour; the problems of and solutions to collective action; the theory of coalitions, and the behaviour of committees and legislatures including agenda-setting and veto-player power; principal-agent problems; models of bureaucracy; public choice accounts of decentralized government and central-local relations; voting paradoxes and cycles; and simple game theory.