



HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU
BERLIN



FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

Course number: 54435

MA EW 4 (HU)

On merit(ocracy) in education seminar

About

In societies following a liberal and democratic model, life chances are supposed to be allocated according to individual merit, rather than according to ascribed characteristics such as wealth, race or gender. In practice, however, the ideal of "meritocracy" is realized at best incompletely. Also, how individual merit is to be determined and what follows in practice from determining merit is highly contested.

Education is at the centre of these controversies, since educational certificates are widely used as a "currency" for the determination and expression of individual merit.

The seminar will explore the concepts of merit and meritocracy from a philosophical and a social science/education-angle. It will be taught jointly by Prof. Florian Waldow (HU) and Prof. Stefan Gosepath (FU Berlin). The seminar will be taught in English, but seminar papers can be written in German.

The seminar is complemented by the research seminar 'Meritokratie: Über die Produktion und Legitimation sozialer Ungleichheit' offered by Prof. Julian Hamann as part of research profile 4. Both seminars can be attended separately or in combination.

who, when and where?

Prof. Stefan Gosepath
(philosophy, FU) & Prof. Florian
Waldow (education, HU)
WS 2024/25, Mo 10-12, weekly
Schönhauser Allee 10-11
Raum, 3.16