

Capstone Course on examining China Competence in Switzerland

Duration: 19th September, 2022 – 31st July 2023

Persons in charge: Prof. Dr. Daniel Kübler, Dr. Su Yun Woo

Client: Asia Society Switzerland

Equivalent for: 2 MA seminars (12 ECTS) in HS 2022 and FS23

A Capstone Course requires an intensive time effort of about one day per week during the whole duration. Please be aware of this. By registering for the Capstone Course you also commit yourself to participate actively in the seminar [Für Forschung und Praxis: Projektmanagement, Teamwork und Präsentationen in Anwendung](#), where you can learn and deepen the necessary soft skills for project work. In return, you will receive further 6 ECTS points.

Context and Project Objective: Asia Society Switzerland is an independent Swiss Foundation that seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of Asia, one of the most dynamic and fastest-growing regions in the world. As one of the most prominent countries in Asia, the relationship between Switzerland and China has become increasingly important with partnerships and collaborations conducted on various fronts and at various territorial levels. An important requirement for these endeavours is China competence, i.e. the knowledge about Chinese culture, society and politics, as well as the capacity to analyse and understand the functioning of crucial institutions and political mechanisms in the People's Republic of China.

The increasing relevance of China competence has been highlighted in the new China Strategy Paper published by the Swiss federal government in spring 2021. Despite the recognition of the importance of China competence, there is till date a lack of a comprehensive approach to study the topic of China competence in Switzerland. As such, this aim of this project is to provide an analytical framework that clarifies the meaning of China competence in Switzerland and to assess the level of such capabilities by focusing on the key players/actors involved in partnerships between subnational governments in the two countries.

Requirements:

- A strong interest in the foreign affairs of China and Switzerland, as well as policy making processes and governmental partnerships.
- Good analytical skills
- Good communication skills

Learning goals:

- Project management
- Interaction and communication with the client
- Knowledge of China, especially the implications of its increasing influence on other countries
- Analysis and reporting

Language: English and German (for potential fieldwork interviews in Switzerland)

Application:

The places in this Capstone Course are limited (4-5). **The deadline for applications is 16th September 2022.** Please send your application (CV, previous study achievements, letter of motivation, as well as a writing sample (e.g. BA thesis or research papers)) by email to Dr. Su Yun Woo (woo@ipz.uzh.ch).