

## Fachbereich 9 - Medienstudiengänge

Department 9 - Media Courses

### Kommentar zur Lehrveranstaltung im WiSe 2023/24

Description of seminars

**Veranstalter\*in:** Dr. Dennis Redeker

*Lecturer:*

**Titel (dt.):**

**Titel (engl.):** Global Governance of Extended Reality

(immer  
angeben)

#### **Beschreibung:**

*Description:*

Applications of virtual and augmented reality are proliferating at a time when large tech companies invest heavily in their own version of “extended reality” (XR). Against this background a number of social scientific questions arise that ought to be studied from a governance perspective. In this seminar, we will explore how XR – a socio-technical construct often referred to a combination of virtual and augmented reality – is and can be governed across borders and by a myriad of different actors and processes. We focus on the governance of what can be done - by human users or social bots - on social XR, specifically focusing on questions of content governance.

Content governance (or moderation) is a core function of providers of social media services already today. The large social media platforms created elaborate platform policies and have put in place (more or less) sophisticated processes to govern content posted on their platforms. However, XR – as it is built around embodiment and immersion – adds new layers of challenges for platform and public policy. XR technology allows for many additional types of actions in social spaces that have henceforth not been studied by those who study platform content governance. Among the possibly tricky actions to moderate are the invasion of personal space in XR, impersonation, unwanted sexually more or less explicit actions, and other newly enabled problematic behaviors. All these challenges for trust and safety on social XR have to be interpreted in a cross-cultural way. In addition, the practice of content moderation itself is more difficult and potentially very privacy-invasive on social XR: A platform needs to constantly monitor, record and interpret many more actions by users in order to establish whether platform policies have been violated.

In this seminar, we first develop a better understanding of social XR, both its current status and its potential. Then, we consider the implications of XR technology for content moderation as it is now, including a review of “new” challenges arising from the affordances of XR. In a third step, we review how content on social media platforms is governed today and we develop idea on how these governance processes could also be used for digital spaces characterized by the deployment of XR technologies. Here, we look at the influence in governance of national legislation and policies, private companies, international agreements and organizations, civil society groups and the role of technology workers - and of users themselves.

#### **Literatur:**

*Literature:*