

The Welfare State in Comparative Perspective

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

Review date: 20-05-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: OZEL SERBETÇİ, ISIK

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : Semester :

OBJECTIVES

- Theoretical and applied knowledge of the welfare state, its historical evolution and its varieties.
- Comprehension of varying roles of political and economic actors in different varieties of the welfare state.
- Understanding institutional frameworks of welfare states and their changes in the face of multiple challenges like globalization, regionalization and crises.
- Applied knowledge to analyze the functioning of welfare states linked to fiscal and monetary institutions.
- Understanding the mechanisms regarding the transmission of crises in various models of welfare states.
- Understanding the political and social bases of the welfare state in its distinct models.
- Analysis of the challenges faced by welfare states with respect to recent transformations in socio-economic and political spheres.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

The welfare state: origins, evolution and current characteristics. Citizenship and the welfare state. Types of welfare state. Social and cultural foundations of the welfare state. Distribution of risks, opportunities and economic efficiency in contemporary societies. Patterns of inequality: State, market and family. The third sector. Social movements: recognition and redistribution. The current problems of the welfare state. Welfare state, regionalization and globalization. Economic crisis and the welfare state. Attitudes toward redistribution and welfare state in comparative perspective.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Learning Activities

- o Lectures
- o Sections/ practical classes
- o Classes which combine theory and practice
- o Office hours
- o Team work/ assignments

Teaching Methodology

This course consists of lectures and a number of activities which will be carried out by the students. In general, classes are designed in a manner to promote active participation and critical thinking of students.

Seminars/ small groups include a series of activities undertaken by groups of students or on an individual bases, such as assignments, presentations, class and small group discussions in designated sessions.

Office hours

Office hours which will be held on a weekly basis will be announced at the beginning of the semester. Additionally, students can consult with the professor about their specific questions via email.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The course grade will be determined through continuous evaluation (whose relative weight will be 50%) and the final exam (whose relative weight will be 50%). In the context of continuous evaluation, papers, presentations, performance in debates, and other exercises which will be undertaken throughout the course will be assessed.

The final exam will assess the knowledge and analytical abilities acquired throughout the course.

Minimum grade requirement in the final exam is 5 out of 10 (50 out of 100).

The evaluation in the extraordinary period (retake) will be based on an exam that will be similar to the final exam, as indicated above.

% end-of-term-examination:	50
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	50

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Castles, F. G., Leibfried, S., Lewis, J., Obinger, H., & Pierson, C. (Eds.). The Oxford Handbook of the Welfare State, OUP Oxford, 2010
- Esping-Andersen, Gosta The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism, Princeton University Press, 1990
- Taylor-Gooby, P. New risks, new welfare: the transformation of the European welfare state, Oxford University Press., 2004

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Swenson, P. A. Capitalists against Markets, The Making of Labor Markets and Welfare States in the United States and Sweden., Cambridge University Press, 2002