

SPL 502: Comparative Social Policy



Instructor: Volkan Yılmaz
Fall 2017, Fridays btw. 14:00-17:00
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Course overview

This is a master's level social science course on comparative social policy. This course introduces students to the study of comparative welfare regimes and offers insights to a wide variety of social policy systems including industrial relations, taxation, pensions, healthcare, social care, housing, social assistance and immigrant's social rights.

Organization of classes

I will lecture around 40-50 minutes in the beginning of the class to set the scene. After Q & A session following the lecture, we will give a short break. After the break, we will have a discussion session where each student is expected to contribute. Based on the assigned reading on Turkey, discussions will be based upon where Turkey fits within specific comparative social policy systems.

Requirements

I expect you to **read each week's assignments** before the class and to engage each week's readings in written form prior to classes. I call these written engagements with the assigned readings "**memos**". Memos should be written on at least **one of the assigned readings** (which should be one of the core readings) of each week. In these memos, I expect you to summarize the main argument of the reading and write what you find most thought provoking (including criticisms and/or appraisals). Average length of these memos should be around 500 words only (around one A4 page with single-space). Please note that longer memos are not better memos. I expect you to send them to me by email until each Monday night (12:00 at the latest). On Tuesdays, I will compile them into one document and send to all participants of the class. I expect you to go over this document before coming to class. **Fulfilling these three requirements on time (reading, writing and reading what others write) is key to ensure the quality of class discussions.** Late memos are not accepted, as they will not be useful in facilitating class discussion anymore. Even if you will not be attending one particular class for some reason, you are still expected to hand in a memo on time. Failing to hand in memos will affect your grade. I will read these memos, but will not grade them for "quality". Memos will constitute 50 per cent of your final grade (5 points for each of the 10 memos in total).

Class participation (not attendance, but participation to discussions) will constitute 15 per cent of your final grade.

Term paper will constitute 35 per cent of your final grade. All students are expected to write a term paper related to the topics covered in this course. All students should discuss their final paper topics with me and are expected to prepare a 2-3 page long final paper proposal with a list of empirical sources that they will cover and a bibliography by December 3. Papers are due January 8. Average expected length of papers will be 5000 words.

Grading scale: 90-100: AA; 80-89 BA; 75-79 BB; 70-74 CB; 65-69 CC; 60-64 DC; 55-59 DD; 50-54 F; 49-0

Reading List

Sep 20	Introduction
Sep 29	<p>Varieties of capitalism</p> <p>Core reading: Boyer, R. (2005). How and why capitalisms differ. <i>Economy and society</i>, 34(4), 509-557.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Soskice, D. W., & Hall, P. A. (2001). <i>Varieties of capitalism: The institutional foundations of comparative advantage</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p>
Oct 6	<p>Welfare state typologies</p> <p>Core readings: Esping-Andersen, G. (1990) <i>The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism</i>, Princeton University.</p> <p>Powell, M., & Barrientos, A. (2004). Welfare regimes and the welfare mix. <i>European journal of political research</i>, 43(1), 83-105.</p> <p>Kasza, G. J. (2002). The illusion of welfare ‘regimes’. <i>Journal of social policy</i>, 31(2), 271-287.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Esping-Andersen, G. (1999) <i>Social Foundations of Postindustrial Economies</i>, Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p>
Oct 13	<p>The Southern European model</p> <p>Core readings: Ferrera, M. (1996) The Southern Model of Welfare in Social Europe, <i>Journal of European Social Policy</i>, 6(1): 17-37</p> <p>Leitner, S. (2003). Varieties of familialism: The caring function of the family in comparative perspective. <i>European societies</i>, 5(4), 353-375.</p> <p>Gal, J. (2010) Is there an extended family of Mediterranean welfare states? <i>Journal of European Social Policy</i>, 20 (4): 283-300.</p> <p>On Turkey: Buğra, Ayşe, and Çağlar Keyder. "The Turkish welfare regime in transformation." <i>Journal of European social policy</i> 16.3 (2006): 211-228.</p>

	<p>Recommended readings: Gough, I. (2004). Social policy regimes in the developing world. <i>A handbook of comparative social policy</i>, 239-257.</p> <p>Kwon, H. J. (1997). Beyond European welfare regimes: comparative perspectives on East Asian welfare systems. <i>Journal of social policy</i>, 26(4), 467-484.</p> <p>Barrientos, A. (2009). Labour markets and the (hyphenated) welfare regime in Latin America. <i>Economy and Society</i>, 38(1), 87-108.</p>
Oct 20	<p>Comparative industrial relations regimes</p> <p>Core reading: Bechter, B., Brandl, B., & Meardi, G. (2012). Sectors or countries? Typologies and levels of analysis in comparative industrial relations. <i>European Journal of Industrial Relations</i>, 18(3), 185-202.</p> <p>On Turkey: Koçer, Rüya Gökhan, and Jelle Visser. "The Role of the State in Balancing the Minimum Wage in Turkey and the USA." <i>British journal of industrial relations</i> 47.2 (2009): 349-370.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Bonoli, G. (2010). The political economy of active labor-market policy. <i>Politics & Society</i>, 38(4), 435-457.</p>
Oct 27	<p>Comparative tax systems</p> <p>Core reading: Swank, D., & Steinmo, S. (2002). The new political economy of taxation in advanced capitalist democracies. <i>American Journal of Political Science</i>, 642-655.</p> <p>On Turkey: Gökşen, F., Özertan, G., Sağlam, İ., & Zenginobuz, Ü. (2008). Impacts of the tax system on poverty and social exclusion: A case study on Turkey. <i>New Perspectives on Turkey</i>, 38, 159-179.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Genschel, P. (2002). Globalization, tax competition, and the welfare state. <i>Politics & Society</i>, 30(2), 245-275.</p>
Nov 3	<p>Comparative pension policies</p> <p>Core reading: Mahon, A., McNeill, K., & Heymann, J. (2015). Pension Programs Around the World: New Comparative Global Policy Data. <i>Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis: Research and Practice</i>, 17(2), 192-207.</p> <p>On Turkey: Güleç, Aslı. "The politics of pension reform in Greece and Turkey: International institutions as external determinants of adjustments." <i>Global Social Policy</i> 14.1 (2014): 72-90.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Calvo, E., Bertranou, F. M., & Bertranou, E. (2010). Are old-age pension system reforms moving away from individual retirement accounts in Latin America?. <i>Journal of Social Policy</i>, 39(2), 223-234.</p>

<p>Nov 17</p>	<p>Comparative healthcare policies</p> <p>Core reading: Wendt, Claus, Lorraine Frisina, and Heinz Rothgang. "Healthcare system types: a conceptual framework for comparison." <i>Social Policy & Administration</i> 43.1 (2009): 70-90.</p> <p>On Turkey: Yılmaz, Volkan. "Changing origins of inequalities in access to healthcare services in Turkey: from occupational status to income." <i>New Perspectives on Turkey</i> 48 (2013): 55-77.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Bamba, C. (2005). Cash versus services: 'worlds of welfare' and the decommodification of cash benefits and health care services. <i>Journal of social policy</i>, 34(2), 195-213.</p>
<p>Nov 24</p>	<p>Comparative housing policies</p> <p>Core reading: Schwartz, H., & Seabrooke, L. (2008). Varieties of residential capitalism in the international political economy: Old welfare states and the new politics of housing. <i>Comparative European Politics</i>, 6(3), 237-261.</p> <p>On Turkey: Kuyucu, Tuna, and Özlem Ünsal. "'Urban Transformation' as State-led Property Transfer: An Analysis of Two Cases of Urban Renewal in Istanbul." <i>Urban Studies</i> (2010).</p> <p>Recommended reading: Castles, F. G., & Ferrera, M. (1996). Home Ownership and the Welfare State: is Southern Europe Different? <i>South European Society and Politics</i>, 1(2), 163-185.</p>
<p>Dec 1</p>	<p>Comparative analysis of gender relations and welfare states</p> <p>Core readings: Orloff, A. S. (1993). Gender and the social rights of citizenship: The comparative analysis of gender relations and welfare states. <i>American sociological review</i>, 303-328.</p> <p>Saxonberg, S. (2013). From defamilialization to degenderization: Toward a new welfare typology. <i>Social Policy & Administration</i>, 47(1), 26-49.</p> <p>On Turkey: Özar, Şemsa, and Burcu Yakut-Cakar. "Unfolding the invisibility of women without men in the case of Turkey." <i>Women's Studies International Forum</i>. Vol. 41. (2013): 24-44.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Orloff, A. S. (2009). Gendering the comparative analysis of welfare states: An unfinished agenda. <i>Sociological Theory</i>, 27(3), 317-343.</p>

<p>Dec 8</p>	<p>Comparative social assistance policies</p> <p>Core readings: Gough, I. (2001). Social assistance regimes: a cluster analysis. <i>Journal of European social policy</i>, 11(2), 165-170.</p> <p>Nelson, K. (2010). Social assistance and minimum income benefits in old and new EU democracies. <i>International Journal of Social Welfare</i>, 19(4), 367-378.</p> <p>On Turkey: Yakut-Cakar, Burcu, Burcay Erus, and Fikret Adaman. "An inquiry on introducing a minimum income scheme in Turkey: Alternating between cost efficiency and poverty reduction." <i>Journal of European Social Policy</i> 22.3 (2012): 305-318.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Saraceno, C. (2002). <i>Social Assistance Dynamics in Europe: National and Local Poverty Regimes</i>. Bristol: Policy Press.</p>
<p>Dec 15</p>	<p>Immigrants' social rights in comparative perspective</p> <p>Core reading: Sainsbury, D. (2006) Immigrants' Social Rights in Comparative Perspective: Welfare Regimes, Forms in Immigration and Immigration Policy Regimes. <i>Journal of European Social Policy</i> 16(3): 229-244.</p> <p>On Turkey: Baban, F., Ilcan, S., & Rygiel, K. (2017). Syrian refugees in Turkey: pathways to precarity, differential inclusion, and negotiated citizenship rights. <i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i>, 43(1), 41-57.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Morissens, A., & Sainsbury, D. (2005). Migrants' social rights, ethnicity and welfare regimes. <i>Journal of Social Policy</i>, 34(4), 637-660.</p>