

SPL 502: Comparative Social Policy



Workers returning home (1915), Edvard Munch

Instructor: Volkan Yılmaz
Fall 2018, Mondays btw. 14:00-17:00
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Course overview

This is a master's level social science course on comparative social policy. Introducing students to theoretical, methodological and practical aspects of the study of social policy, the course provides an overview of the structure and functioning of a wide range of social policy arrangements in different country contexts and key principles underpinning these arrangements. Special emphasis is put on the characteristics of the following aspects of social policies: social policy financing, employment, industrial relations, pensions, health care, social care and housing.

Organization of classes

I will lecture around 40-50 minutes at 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). The 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 Saturday night (12:00 at the latest). **Fulfilling these requirements on time (reading and writing) is key to ensure the quality of lectures and 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.

The 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 17. Papers are due January 11. 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 24	Introduction
Oct 1	<p>Social policy: An introduction</p> <p>Titmuss, Richard M. (1965). "The role of redistribution in social policy." <i>Soc. Sec. Bull.</i> 28: 14-20.</p> <p>Titmuss, Richard M. (1974). <i>Social policy</i>: 138-147.</p>
Oct 8	<p>The welfare triad & welfare regimes</p> <p>Esping-Andersen, G. (1990). <i>The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism</i>, Princeton University.</p> <p>Esping-Andersen, G. (1999). <i>Social Foundations of Postindustrial Economies</i>, Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>On Turkey: Buğra, Ayşe, and Çağlar Keyder. (2006). "The Turkish welfare regime in transformation." <i>Journal of European social policy</i> 16.3: 211-228.</p>
Oct 15	<p>Financing social policy</p> <p>Genschel, P. (2002). Globalization, tax competition, and the welfare state. <i>Politics & Society</i>, 30(2), 245-275</p> <p>Hujo, K., & McClanahan, S. (2009). <i>Financing social policy: Mobilizing resources for social development</i>. Springer: 1-23.</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 style="text-align: center;">Oct 22</p>	<p>Gender relations and its interaction with social policy</p> <p>Lewis, J. (1992). Gender and the development of welfare regimes. <i>Journal of European social policy</i>, 2(3), 159-173.</p> <p>Orloff, A. S. (2009). Gendering the comparative analysis of welfare states: An unfinished agenda. <i>Sociological Theory</i>, 27(3), 317-343.</p> <p>On Turkey: Özar, Şemsa, and Burcu Yakut-Cakar. (2013). "Unfolding the invisibility of women without men in the case of Turkey." <i>Women's Studies International Forum</i>. Vol. 41.: 24-44.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Nov 12</p>	<p>Employment</p> <p>Scharpf, F. W. (2003). Employment and the welfare state. <i>Comparing welfare capitalism: Social policy and political economy in Europe, Japan and the USA</i>, 270-283.</p> <p>Chan, C. K. C., & Nadvi, K. (2014). Changing labour regulations and labour standards in China: Retrospect and challenges. <i>International Labour Review</i>, 153(4), 513-534.</p> <p>On Turkey: Koçer, Rüya Gökhan, and Jelle Visser. (2009) "The Role of the State in Balancing the Minimum Wage in Turkey and the USA." <i>British journal of industrial relations</i> 47.2: 349-370.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Nov 19</p>	<p>Industrial relations</p> <p>Crouch, C. (2004). Welfare state regimes and industrial relations systems: The questionable role of path dependency theory. In <i>Comparing welfare capitalism</i>. Routledge: 127-146.</p> <p>Rodríguez, C. J. F., Rojo, R. I., & Lucio, M. M. (2016). Austerity and collective bargaining in Spain: The political and dysfunctional nature of neoliberal deregulation. <i>European Journal of Industrial Relations</i>, 22(3), 267-280.</p> <p>On Turkey: Adaman, F., Buğra, A., & İnsel, A. (2009). Societal context of labor union strategy: the case of Turkey. <i>Labor Studies Journal</i>, 34(2), 168-188.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Nov 26</p>	<p>Pensions</p> <p>Ebbinghaus, B. (2011). Varieties of pension governance. The privatization of pensions in Europe. Oxford: 351-383.</p> <p>On Turkey: Güleç, Aslı. (2014). "The politics of pension reform in Greece and Turkey: International institutions as external determinants of adjustments." <i>Global Social Policy</i> 14.1: 72-90.</p>

<p>Dec 3</p>	<p>Health care</p> <p>Böhm, K., Schmid, A., Götze, R., Landwehr, C., & Rothgang, H. (2013). Five types of OECD healthcare systems: empirical results of a deductive classification. <i>Health Policy</i>, 113(3), 258-269.</p> <p>Mills, A. (2014). Health care systems in low-and middle-income countries. <i>New England Journal of Medicine</i>, 370(6), 552-557.</p> <p>On Turkey: Yılmaz, Volkan. (2013). "Changing origins of inequalities in access to healthcare services in Turkey: from occupational status to income." <i>New Perspectives on Turkey</i> 48: 55-77.</p>
<p>Dec 10</p>	<p>Social care</p> <p>Daly, Mary. (2002). Care as a Good for Social Policy. <i>Journal of Social Policy</i>, 31(2), 251-270.</p> <p>Razavi, S. (2011). Rethinking care in a development context: An introduction. <i>Development and Change</i>, 42(4), 873-903.</p> <p>On Turkey: Akkan, B. (2017). The Politics of Care in Turkey: Sacred Familialism in a Changing Political Context. <i>Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State & Society</i>, 25(1), 72-91.</p>
<p>Dec 17</p>	<p>Housing</p> <p>Torgersen, U. (1987). Housing: the wobbly pillar under the welfare state. <i>Scandinavian Housing and Planning Research</i>, 4(sup1), 116-126.</p> <p>Malpass, P. (2008). Housing and the new welfare state: Wobbly pillar or cornerstone?. <i>Housing studies</i>, 23(1), 1-19.</p> <p>On Turkey: Kuyucu, Tuna, and Özlem Ünsal. (2010). "'Urban Transformation' as State-led Property Transfer: An Analysis of Two Cases of Urban Renewal in Istanbul." <i>Urban Studies</i>.</p>