COURSE DETAIL

COMPARATIVE SOCIAL POLICY: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY OUTLOOK

Country
France

Host Institution
Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

Program(s)
Sciences Po Paris

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Sociology Political Science

UCEAP Course Number
102

UCEAP Course Suffix
Y

UCEAP Official Title
COMPARATIVE SOCIAL POLICY: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY OUTLOOK

UCEAP Transcript Title
COMP SOCIAL POLICY

UCEAP Quarter Units
4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description
This course provides a comprehensive outlook of comparative social policy, spanning from theory to practice. The lecture series is divided in four parts. The first part introduces the comparative method and its centrality within the social policy literature. It reflects upon the possibility to generalize from the analysis of few cases by moving up and down on the “ladder of abstraction”. In addition, the course defines the comparative social policy field in accordance with the contemporary and historical literature. The second part illustrates the main explanations of welfare state development and describes Esping-Andersen's welfare regimes. It also critically assesses the evolution of welfare regimes over time and their potential heuristic validity for the future. The third part highlights the main challenges (namely new social risks, family changes, the demographic evolution, globalization and crises) for welfare states and analyzes how different countries are coping with social change. The fourth and last part of the course considers welfare states as an independent variable: alternative welfare state configurations have different effects on redistribution, social capital creation, and the competitive advantage of countries. For this reason the course analyzes how countries use social policy to address simultaneously societal and economic issues.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
DSOC 25A00

Host Institution Course Title
COMPARATIVE SOCIAL POLICY: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY OUTLOOK

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
English Seminar

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Sociology

Course Last Reviewed

Print