

COURSE DETAIL

NORDIC WELFARE SOCIETY: CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES

Country

Norway

Host Institution

University of Oslo

Program(s)

University of Oslo

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology Scandinavian Studies

UCEAP Course Number

102

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

NORDIC WELFARE SOCIETY: CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES

UCEAP Transcript Title

NORDIC WELFARE SOC

UCEAP Quarter Units

8.00

UCEAP Semester Units

5.30

Course Description

This course gives an introduction to the Nordic social and welfare state models focusing on work, family, immigration, labor relations, economic policies, pensions, schooling, and gender equality. Theoretically, the course is informed by comparative welfare state research and political economy. It focuses on contemporary debates on the sustainability of Nordic welfare state models in the context of challenges such as the ongoing pandemic, ageing, flows of immigrants and asylum seekers, financial internationalization, climate crisis, and relations to the EU single market. The course covers the historical roots of the Nordic states and the development of their political and welfare systems in the twentieth century. Also discussed are the social conflict lines, alliances, and compromises that created the post-war context of highly organized civil societies (centralized labor unions and employers associations, strong organizations of farmers and fishermen), and how they are linked to the state in patterns of democratic corporatism. Other topics covered are: the reconciliation of work and family life in the setting of the Nordic welfare state; the policy reforms that have been agreed on in order to respond to present challenges; and the sustainability of the ambitions of gender equality and universalist welfare provisions. Reflecting on both the history and the contemporary challenges of the region, the course critically assesses various idealized accounts of Nordic peculiarities and discusses the similarities and differences between the Nordic countries with that of other European countries.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

SOS2603

Host Institution Course Title

NORDIC WELFARE SOCIETY: CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Social Sciences

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Sociology and Human Geography

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