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 Course Details
https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/sv/iss/SOS2603/

Host Institution Campus
Host Institution Faculty Social Sciences
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Sociology and Human Geography
Course Last Reviewed 2023-2024

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