

**University of Waterloo**  
**PSCI255 Comparative Political Economy**  
**Fall 2012**  
**2:30-3:50 Tuesday/Thursday, DWE 2527**

Jingjing Huo

[jjhuo@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:jjhuo@uwaterloo.ca)

Office: HH349

Office Hours: Monday 11:30-1:00 Thursday 12:30-2:00

**Format**

lecture

**Pre-Requisites**

None

**Course Description**

This course offers an introduction to the comparative analysis of political economy across advanced industrialized liberal democracies. Aptly called “rich democracies” by Harold Wilensky (2002), we will not only examine how such wealth is generated, but also how it is redistributed through the democratic institutions and actors in control of these institutions. Arguably, one of the most fundamental questions in politics is “who gets what.” Therefore, studies of wealth generation and redistribution, in the group of countries with the world’s largest economic clout and most advanced economic development, offer important signposts for the future evolution of politics, not only for these countries, but for other industrializing countries trying to catch up. In other words, comparing political economies across rich democracies is one of the most fundamentally important topics in political science, and it has deep implications across the diverse field of political science.

**Academic Integrity:**

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):**

[http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic\\_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (UW):** <http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/>

### **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

**Note for students with disabilities:** The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

## **Course Requirements**

### *(1). Exams (30% and 35%)*

There will be two closed book exams (midterm and final). The higher grade of the two exams will be worth 35% and the other will be worth 30% of the total course grade.

The midterm exam includes two types of questions: short ID questions and long theoretical questions. For short ID questions, you are asked to provide a concise and accurate explanation of key terms used in the comparative study of political economy in rich democracies (example: coordinated market economies, Christian democratic welfare states). For long theoretical questions, you are asked to provide a detailed and extensive answer to questions that address the core theories learn over the course.

The final exam is not cumulative, so it covers the materials after the midterm. The final exam will be given in the same format as the midterm, but the long theoretical questions will be more complicated and comprehensive, and you are expected to provide more detailed answers. More details about requirements for each exam will be announced one week before the exam.

### *(2). Term paper (35%)*

During the course of the semester, you will be asked to write a term paper to comparatively analyze data in the political economy in rich democracies. The detailed guidelines and data for the term paper will be provided separately as we finish some of

the key foundation sections of the course. The paper should be around 12 pages in length, double-spaced. Writing an academic paper is a serious commitment of time and research efforts. Remember to start early. My advice is to start thinking about your topic as soon as you receive the term paper prompt. The paper is due on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Readings**

The core task of the course is to follow the lecture and grasp its theoretical arguments in detail. Every week, I will put on LEARN various book chapters and articles that provide more concrete and vivid historical examples of how these theories are applied in real life, in actual countries, policies, and outcomes. When you discuss a particular theory (for example in an exam), you are welcome to use the country or policy experiences from the readings as evidence to back it up. The readings, however, will not be directly tested in the exams. The exams focus on your theoretical knowledge, which is based on the lecture. More extensive knowledge about particular countries or histories might help you articulate the theories better, but it is not a substitute. As a result, the readings are recommended but not required, and attention to the lecture should take priority.

### **Course Organization**

- September 11<sup>th</sup> Introduction of the course and its requirements

#### **(1) The Role of Politics in the Economy**

September 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

John Myles and Jill Quadagno, "Political Theories of the Welfare State," *Social Service Review*, March, 2002. Read pages 34-41. We will read the rest latter

#### **(2). Response to Poverty and Inequality**

September 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

#### **(3). Comparing Welfare States**

September 27<sup>th</sup>, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup>

John Clarke and Frances Fox Piven, "United States: An American Welfare State?" in *International Social Policy: Welfare Regimes in the Developed World* eds. Peter Alcock and Gary Craig. Palgrave Macmillan. 2001.

Robert Page, "The United Kingdom". In *The State of Social Welfare: the Twentieth Century in Cross-National Review* eds. John Dixon and Robert Scheurell. Prager Publishers. 2002.

Sven E. Olsson Hort, "Sweden". In *The State of Social Welfare: the Twentieth Century in Cross-National Review* eds. John Dixon and Robert Scheurell. Prager Publishers. 2002.

Lutz Leisering, "The Welfare State in Postwar Germany". In *Welfare States and the Future* eds. B. Vivekanandan and Nimmi Kurian. Palgrave Macmillan. 2005.

Ellen Immergut, "The Rules of the Game: The Logic of Health Policy Making in France, Switzerland and Sweden." In Sven Steinmo, et al. (eds.), *Structuring Politics: Historical Institutionalism in Comparative Analysis*, Cambridge, 1992

#### **(4). The Political Economy of Employment**

Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

Esping-Andersen, "The structural base of postindustrial employment", in *Social Foundations for Postindustrial Economies.*" Oxford University Press. 1999. Chapter 6

Torben Iversen and Ann Wren. (1998), "Equality, employment and budgetary restraint: the trilemma of the service economy," *World Politics*, 50, 4: 507 –46

Jochen Clasen, "Motives, Means and Opportunities: Reforming Unemployment Compensation in the 1990s". In Maurizio Ferrera and Martin Rhodes, *Recasting European Welfare States*, Frank Cass, 2000

### **Oct 25<sup>th</sup>: Midterm exam**

#### **(5). The Political Economy of Growth**

November 1<sup>st</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup>

Peter Katzenstein. Chapter 3 "Democratic Corporatism and Its Variants" in *Small States in World Markets: Industrial Policy in Europe*. Cornell University Press. 1985

Hall, Peter and David Soskice. 2010. "An Introduction to Varieties of Capitalism" in Peter Hall and David Soskice, eds. *Varieties of Capitalism: The Institutional Foundation of Comparative Advantage*. New York: Oxford University Press.

## **(6). The Political Economy of Gender**

November 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>

Esping-Andersen, "The Household Economy" *The Social Foundations of Postindustrial Economies*, Oxford University Press. 1999. Chapter 4

Marcia Meyers, Janet Gornick, and Katherin Ross. "Public Childcare, Parental Leave, and Employment" in *Gender and Welfare State Regimes ed Diane Sainsbury*. Oxford University Press. 1999

Diane Sainsbury. "Taxation, Family Responsibilities and Employment" in *Gender and Welfare State Regimes ed Diane Sainsbury*. Oxford University Press. 1999

Martin Claude. 1997. "Social welfare and the family in Southern Europe." In *Southern European welfare states: between crisis and reform*. ed. Martin Rhodes. London: Frank Cass.

## **Term Paper Due: November 22<sup>nd</sup>**

## **(7). The Political Economy of Decline**

November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and December 29<sup>th</sup>

John Myles and Jill Quadagno, "Political Theories of the Welfare State," *Social Science Review*, March, 2002. Read pages 41-57.

Peter Katzenstein. Chapter 1 "Introduction" in *Small States in World Markets: Industrial Policy in Europe*. Cornell University Press. 1985

Anton Hemerijck and Jelle Visser, "Change and Immobility: Three Decades of Policy Adjustment in the Netherlands and Belgium." In Maurizio Ferrera and Martin Rhodes, *Recasting European Welfare States*, Frank Cass, 2000

Martin Rhodes, "Desperately Seeking a Solution: Social Democracy, Thatcherism and the 'Third Way' in British Welfare." In Maurizio Ferrera and Martin Rhodes, *Recasting European Welfare States*, Frank Cass, 2000

Philip Manow and Eric Seils, "The Employment Crisis of the German Welfare State." In Maurizio Ferrera and Martin Rhodes, *Recasting European Welfare States*, Frank Cass, 2000

Stein Kuhnle, "The Scandinavian Welfare State in the 1990s: Challenged but Viable." In Maurizio Ferrera and Martin Rhodes, *Recasting European Welfare States*, Frank Cass, 2000