

# PSCI 255: Comparative Political Economy

Fall, 2013

MC4045, 2:30pm-3:50pm Tuesdays and Thursdays

---

**Instructor:** Jingjing Huo

**Email Address:** [jjhuo@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:jjhuo@uwaterloo.ca)

**Office Location:** Hagey Hall 310

**Office Hours:** 1:00pm-2:00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Contact Policy or Header Notes:** Please contact the instructor directly by email.

## Teaching Assistants:

**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.

**Pre-Requisites:** None

## Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should:

- Be able to understand the basic concepts and theories introduced in this course
- Be able to apply these theories in the appropriate empirical context

## University Regulations:

### Cross-listed course:

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

### 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, [Student Discipline http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71).

**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, [Student Petitions and Grievances http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70). In addition, consult [Student Grievances http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes) for the Faculty of Arts’ grievance processes.

**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, [Student Appeals http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72).

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** [Academic Integrity http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic\\_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** [Academic Integrity Office http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/](http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/)

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

**Note for students with disabilities:** The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, 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 AS Office at the beginning of each academic term.

## **If you are using Turnitin in your course:**

**Turnitin.com:** Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course.

Note: students must be given a reasonable option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. See [Turnitin http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-waterloo-faculty/turnitin-waterloo](http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-waterloo-faculty/turnitin-waterloo) for more information.

## **Texts:**

No required reading materials. There are various optional readings assigned for each week. I have put all these readings on LEARN.

## **Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:**

### **Term paper:**

During the course of the semester, you will be asked to write a term paper to comparatively analyze data about the political economy of affluent democracies. This paper is worth 35% of your overall course grade. 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. The analysis of data for this project is a time-consuming process. For this reason, it is important to start early. Ideally, you should start the data analysis as soon as you receive the term paper prompt. The paper is due on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Late papers will receive a 5% grade reduction per day.

### **Tests & Examinations:**

There will be two closed book exams (midterm and final). **Of the two exams, the one for which you got higher grade will be 35% and the one for which you got lower grade will be 30%. The mid term is on October 22<sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday), during regular class time, at MC4045.**

The midterm exam includes two types of questions: ID questions and complex theoretical questions. For ID questions, you are asked to provide a concise and accurate explanation of key terms used in comparative political economy (example: wage compression, varieties of capitalism, collective action problem). For complex theoretical questions, you are asked to discuss different aspects of a complex theory in a coherent and comprehensive manner.

The final exam will be given in the same format as the midterm, but the complex theoretical questions will be more demanding 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.

**Please note: Student travel plans are not an acceptable reason for granting an alternative examination time.**

## **Schedule:**

**September 10<sup>th</sup> Introduction**

**September 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> The Role of Politics in the Economy**

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

**September 19<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Response to Poverty and Inequality**

**September 26<sup>th</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Comparing Welfare States**

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

### **October 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> The Political Economy of Employment**

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

### **October 24<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> The Political Economy of Growth**

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.

### **November 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> The Political Economy of Gender**

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.

### **November 14<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> The Political Economy of Decline**

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