European societies II:

Economy, social structure, values and social cohesion in European societies

SO2330

Lecturer:
Peter Mühlaup
muhlaup@tcd.ie
3-5 College Green, Room 2.05
Office hour: Wednesday, 13.00-14.00

Teaching Assistant:
Kasia Wodniak

Module Content/Outline

This module examines different forms of social inequality in Western Europe – the divisions of class, gender, ethnicity and life cycle. It considers the extent to which the European Union involves a European social model of social cohesion – a particularly European way of countering the divisions of a market society. The module uses comparative studies, as well as case studies from selected European countries. Part II will focus on the economy, social structure, values and social cohesion in European societies.

There will be two lectures per week. All students are allocated into seminar groups; seminars start in week 2 (see separate handout). Seminars are taken by the teaching assistant on the course Kasia Wodniak; please note that attendance at seminars is compulsory and that non-attendance at more than three seminars will be penalised with a loss of up to 10% of the overall grade for each part of the course.

Learning Objectives

On successful completion of part II of this module, you will be able to:

- outline the main sociological theories of social structure, value change and social cohesion relevant to contemporary Europe;
- describe and explain the development trajectories and main differences in social structure, values and social cohesion between European societies;
- critically discuss and empirically evaluate theories of societal modernisation in Europe and of convergence and divergence of European societies.
Assessment

Part II of the module is assessed by an end-of-the-year examination in the exam period between calendar week 36 and 39 (28.04.2014-24.05.2013). Date and venue of the examination will be announced in due time by the exam office. The exam will last for three hours. The format of the exam consists in answering 5 questions out of 10 questions. The result of the exam counts for 100 percent of the mark of the module part and 50 percent of the module mark.

Readings

There is no textbook for the module part. All readings will be made available in the course folder on blackboard if not indicated otherwise (&=not available on blackboard). The reading list can be changed during the course of the module.

*= essential reading for lecture preparation/recapitulation
&=not available on blackboard

Lectures and readings

Introduction (13.01.)

Economy and Population in Pre-Industrial Europe (20.01.)


&Symposium on Gregory Clark’s A Farewell to Alms. European Review of Economic History 12: 137-199

The ‘Industrial Revolution’ reconsidered (22.01)


The Service Economy (27.01).


Toward an hourglass economy? Job Polarisation in the US and Europe (29.01.)


Social class and social inequality in Europe (03.02)


Educational systems and educational expansion in Europe (05.02.)


Breen, R. (2010): Social mobility and inequality in opportunity. The Economic and Social Review

**Religion in Europe: Secularisation or De-institutionalisation? (10.02.)**


**A Value Revolution in Europe? (12.02.)**


**Lecture 10: Women’s employment and gender egalitarian beliefs in the US and Europe (17.02.)**


**Lecture 11: Marriage (Unions) and intergenerational relations in Europe (19.02.)**


Mynaska, M. And L. Bernardi (2007): Meanings and attitudes attached to cohabitation in Poland: Qualitative analyses of the slow diffusion of cohabitation among the young generation. Demographic Research 16: 520-551

Lecture 12: Housework in the US and Europe (03.03.)


Lecture 13: The baby bust: Fertility in Europe (05.03.)


Lecture 14: Civilising Europe: Declining Violence? (10.03.)


**Lecture 15: Beyond the family: Social relations in Europe (12.03)**


*S* Lecture on 19.03.!

**Lecture 16: Association and community in Europe and the US (24.03.)**


**Lecture 17: Decline of social capital in the US and Europe (26.03)**


**Lecture 18: Exam Preparations**
Lecture 19: Europe: Culture and modernisation; convergence and persisting differences -- A review of the lectures