

<b>Module Title :</b>	<b>SS3380 Comparative Welfare States (10 ECTS)</b>
	<p>This module comprises two sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section One - Comparative Welfare States will run in Michaelmas term</li> <li>• Section Two - Comparative Welfare States – Change, Retrenchment and Restructuring will run in Hilary term</li> </ul>
<b>Section One Module Content</b>	<p><b>Comparative Welfare States (5 ECTS)</b></p> <p>This section of the module introduces students to the diversity of modern welfare states, and the challenges and benefits of comparing welfare state institutions, policies, provisions and outcomes. The module adopts a comparative perspective and draws on examples from a variety of welfare states and different policy sectors. Particular attention will be given to the ongoing ‘crisis’ of the welfare state and the various options proposed and implemented to reform welfare states.</p>
<b>Section One Learning Outcomes:</b>	<p>On completion of this section of the module students will have a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appreciation of the challenges and benefits of comparative analysis of welfare states</li> <li>• Good grasp of the reasons for development and expansion of welfare states</li> <li>• Understanding that ‘worlds of welfare’ differ significantly</li> <li>• Awareness of how welfare structures shape attitudes towards social policy and redistribution</li> <li>• Understanding of the debates about welfare states in response to shared challenges (especially the rise in women’s labour market participation, labour market inclusion, population ageing and integration of immigrants)</li> </ul>
<b>Lecturer/Timetable</b>	<p>Lecturer for Comparative Welfare States – Professor Virpi Timonen</p> <p>This section of the module will consist of one two-hour lecture / seminar per week.</p>
<b>Section One Module Assessment:</b>	<p>Essay = 37% of overall module grade (To be submitted – December 2014)</p> <p>Presentation = 8% of overall module grade (Undertaken November / December 2014)</p> <p>Attendance = 5% of overall module grade</p>

<p><b>Section Two Module Content</b></p>	<p><b>Comparative Welfare States – Change, Retrenchment and Restructuring (5 ECTS)</b></p> <p>The main focus of this section of the module will introduce students to the key debates about welfare state change, retrenchment and restructuring. It will adopt a theoretical / comparative perspective</p> <p>The topics covered in this section of the module include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparing welfare states – The comparative context</li> <li>• Comparing welfare states</li> <li>• The regime approach</li> <li>• Welfare state convergence / divergence</li> <li>• Comparing levels of social expenditure</li> <li>• Welfare state crisis</li> <li>• Welfare state retrenchment</li> <li>• Theories of welfare state retrenchment and restructuring</li> <li>• Globalisation and the welfare state</li> <li>• The politics of the welfare state</li> <li>• The middle class and the welfare state</li> <li>• Comparing policy sectors</li> <li>• The welfare state of the future</li> </ul>
<p><b>Learning Outcomes:</b></p>	<p>On completion of section two students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a knowledge and understanding of the comparative approach to welfare states</li> <li>• Be familiar with the theories of welfare state change, retrenchment and restructuring</li> <li>• Be familiar with the approach to social policy in different policy sectors – e.g. health policy:</li> <li>• Be familiar with the debates about the future direction for social policy / welfare states.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Readings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Castles, Francis, G (2004) <i>The Future of the Welfare State: Crisis Myths and Crisis Realities</i> Oxford: Oxford University Press</li> <li>• Cousins, Mel (2005) <i>European Welfare States: Comparative Perspectives</i> London: Sage</li> <li>• Esping-Andersen, G et al (1996) <i>Welfare States in Transition</i> London: Sage Publications</li> <li>• Esping-Andersen, G. <i>et al.</i> (2002) <i>Why we Need a New Welfare State</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</li> <li>• Hill, Michael (2006) <i>Social Policy in the Modern World</i> Oxford: Blackwell</li> <li>• Pierson, Christopher (2006) <i>Beyond the Welfare State?</i> Cambridge: Polity Press</li> </ul>

<b>Lecturer/Timetable</b>	<p>Lecturer for Welfare States: Change, Retrenchment and Restructuring – Assistant Professor Judy O'Shea</p> <p>This section of the module will consist of</p> <p>Two 1hour lectures per week and one tutorial per week</p>
<b>Section Two Module Assessment</b>	<p>Annual Examination = 50% of overall grade</p>