

Social Policy in Taiwan from Comparative Perspectives

- Class Level : graduate and Undergraduate
- Credit numbers: 3
- Course Number :
- Course Dates :
- Course Time:
- Classroom :
- Instructor : Dr. Chuan-Ching Hwang
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- Extension : 7744

- Course Description:

Objective : Social Policy is not only shaped by the political, social, economic and cultural background of a country, but also by international factors such as globalization. More and more globalization is forcing sovereign welfare states to react to increased economic competition and the “new social risks.” One of the unexpected benefits of this is that learning from the experiences and programs of other countries has been a major driving force for policy reform. As a result, this course will analyze how Taiwanese social welfare systems compare with other established overseas models.

An outline of this course is as follows. Beginning with a theoretical discussion of the driving forces behind the welfare development and welfare regimes concepts, students will be introduced to Taiwanese welfare development, followed by an overview of the concepts of social security, including an explanation of the agency, the coverage, financial models, and the benefits. A systematic analysis of Taiwanese social insurance (pension, health care, unemployment, work injury and maternity) will then be given which further encompasses social relief, anti-poverty and other institutional arrangements and practices. The latter part of this course includes an examination of the strengths and weaknesses of the social security system, as well as social services programs, especially long-term care systems. Throughout the course, attendees will consider the regime concept and comparative perspectives when analyzing all the topics mentioned.

Topics for each week :

week 1 : Introduction of the Course
week 2 : Welfare Development in Western Countries
week 3 : Welfare Development in Taiwan
week 4 : Theories of the Welfare State
week 5 : Welfare Regimes: What regime does Taiwan apply?
week 6 : Introduction of social security and insurance
week 7 : Pension System
week 8 : Pension systems in Taiwan and Around the World
week 9 : Pension systems in Taiwan and Around the World
week 10 : Health insurance
week 11 : Unemployment Insurance
week 12 : Poverty and Social Assistance
week 13 : Social Assistance
week 14 : Emergency Assistance
week 15 : Social Allowance and Basic Income
week 16 : Long-term Care System
week 17 : Report
week 18 : Final Exam

Grading :

Final Examination: 40%

Attendance and Participation: 20%

Report: 40% (Participant is requested to compare a policy field of at least one country with the Taiwanese system. The presentation to be held weekly when discussing the weekly topic.)

Reference:

Francis G. Castles et al, eds. (2012) . The Oxford Handbook of the Welfare State.

Oxford, University Press

Esping-Andersen, Gosta (1990). The three worlds of welfare capitalism. Princeton:

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Esping-Andersen, Gøsta (1999). Social Foundations of Postindustrial Economies.

New York: Oxford University Press.

Goodman, Roger & White, Gordon & Kwon, Huck-ju (1998). The East Asian

Welfare Model: Welfare Orientalism and the State, London/New York:

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Holiday, Ian (2002). Productivist Welfare Capitalism: Social Policy in East Asia,

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- Hwang, Chuan-Ching (2006). Taiwans und Österreichs wohlfahrtsstaatliche Systeme im Vergleich: Typus und Bestimmungsfaktoren im Vergleich. Dissertation. Wien: Universität Wien.
- Korpi, W. & Palme, J. (2003). New Politics and Class Politics in the Context of Austerity and Globalization: Welfare State Regress in 18 Countries, 1975–95. *American Political Science Review* 97 (3), pp. 425-46.
- Morel, N. & Palier, P. & Palme J. (2012) .Towards a social investment state? Bristol: Policy Press ◦
- Peng, Ito & Wong, Joseph (2010). East Asia. In: Francis Castles & Stephan Leibfried & Jane Lewis & Christoph Pierson (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the welfare state*, pp. 656-670. Oxford: Oxford University Press,
- Pierson, Christopher (2006). *Beyond the Welfare State? The New Political Economy of Welfare*, London: Polity Press.
- Pierson, P. (1996). 'The New Politics of the Welfare State', *World Politics*, 48 (2), pp. 143-. 179