1. **Title of the module**

SOCI8770 (SO877) - Key Issues in Comparative Social Policy

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7.

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

20 credits (10 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Spring term (term 2)

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

International Social Policy MA

Two year Master’s in International Social Policy MA

Optional module for other SSPSSR taught MAs

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 Interpret social policy developments in general, and at the level of key fields and issue areas, using relevant international and comparative analytic frameworks

8.2 Understand the role of the European Union and other supranational institutions in policymaking in social policy broadly and in key fields and issue areas

8.3 Analyse national differences and similarities across key social policy fields and issue areas in terms of institutions, welfare mix configuration and policy outcomes, using relevant theories and approaches

8.4 Identify and evaluate the salience and significance of major boundary-spanning processes for international social policy, including globalisation, Europeanization, and international migration

8.5 Understand the nature of the political, economic, social and technological issues relevant to comparative social policy, and be able to evaluate their emergence and development

8.6 Understand the different uses for and forms of theory, evidence and argument in international social policy studies; and develop an individual stance on the appropriate application of analytic frameworks

8.7 Describe, evaluate and apply different approaches to collecting, analysing and presenting social and technical information

8.8 Assess the value of a range of research methods appropriate to a range of social policy issues and fields

9. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1 Communicate, in terms of organising information in a clear and coherent way, responding to written sources and presenting information orally.

9.2 Application of theory and research evidence to understanding of key issues in welfare and social policy

9.3 Working with others by co-operating on seminars and expressing reasoned arguments orally

9.4 Argumentation: they will develop logical arguments based upon sound reasoning and understanding of the material and express these arguments in a written format

9.5 Desk-based research. Students will be able to gather library and web-based resources appropriate for postgraduate study; make critical judgements about their merits and use the available evidence to construct a developed argument to be presented orally or in writing

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This course focuses on key challenges for International Social Policy through systematically differentiating and analysing key fields and issues. In this way, the student is provided with a systematic overview of some of the main spheres in which international and national social policy agendas co evolve. Individual social policy fields include extended working life and retirement; health; social security, migration policy and social care; with related issue areas including social exclusion and urban policies. While many policy domains are under pressure to change in the context of common socio-economic and processes – including population ageing, globalisation, and international migration -the response to these pressures will vary depending on a number of internal and external socio-economic and political factors, whose configuration will vary markedly by country and policy field.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Clasen, J. (1999) *Comparative Social Policy: Concepts, Theories and Methods* Oxford: Blackwell

Cochrane, A.; Clarke, J.; Gewirtz, S. (2002) *Comparing Welfare States* 2nd Edition Open University Press & Sage.

Cousins, M. (2005) *European Welfare States*, Sage Pub.

Esping-Andersen, G. (1999) *Social Foundations of Postindustrial Economies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Giddens, A. (2007) *Europe in the Global Age*, Polity Press, Cambridge.

Hall, P.A. and Soskice, D. (eds) (2001) *Varieties of Capitalism: The Institutional foundations of comparative advantage*, Oxford University Press.

Hill, M. (2006) *Social Policy in the Modern World*, Blackwell Publishing

Leibfried, S. and Pierson, P. (eds) (1995) *European Social Policy: Between Fragmentation and Integration,* Brookings Institute, Washington.

Pestieau, P. (2006) *The Welfare State in the European Union* Oxford University Press

Powell, M: Hewitt, M. (2002) *Welfare State and Welfare Change* Open University Press.

Schierup, C.U. ; Hansen, P. & Castles, S. (2006) *Migration, Citizenship, and the European Welfare State. A European Dilemma*, Oxford University Press

Taylor-Gooby, P. (2005) (ed.) *Making a European Welfare State? Convergences and conflicts*

*Over European Social Policy* Blackwell Pub.

Tsoukalis, L. 2005 *What Kind of Europe*? Oxford University Press*,*

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 22

Private study hours: 178

Total study hours: 200

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Coursework - essay (4000-5000 words) – 70%

Coursework – review (1500 words) - 30%

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% coursework.

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1* | *8.2* | *8.3* | *8.4* | *8.5* | *8.6* | *8.7* | *8.8* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* | *9.4* | *9.5* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| Lectures | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seminars | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay – 4-5000 words | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| Review- 1500 words | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The discussion and application of social policy is performed in a comparative international context. The module is designed to enable students to develop an international perspective.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 2010 | N/K | Autumn 2010 | N/K | N/K |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Revised FSO Feb 2018