

Course title: THEORIES OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL POLICY – INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES
Course coordinator: Assist. Prof. Dr. Vesna Leskošek
Lecturers: Prof. Dr. Silvia M. Staub-Bernasconi, Assist. Prof. Dr. Vesna Leskošek, Prof. Dr. Mikko Mäntysaari, Assist. Prof. Dr. Maria Maiss, Prof. Dr. Sabine Hering.
No. of hours: 250 Lectures: 30 Seminar: 15 Field work: 0 Other: 205
ECTS: 10

2. Prerequisites:	Second-level study programme evaluated with at least 300 credits; Existing university study programmes in social and applied sciences, art and humanities, exceptionally in other sciences. Knowledge about the theories of social work taught at the national level.
3. Objectives of the course and intended	• Solid knowledge about the discipline and profession of social work and its relation to social policy – overview over their main theoreticians and theoretical debates in an international comparative way. • Knowledge and the awareness on the importance of historical perspective in analyzing current policies and practices. • To provide students with critical and holistic overview of current global and EU processes and their impact on the every day life of people, especially those experiencing poverty, exclusion or problems in their social status.
4. Envisaged learning outcomes: learning outcomes (competences):	• Capacity of analysis of theories of social work and social policy according to their basic ontological and epistemological assumptions • Capacity to reflect critically old and new theories of social work and their link to social policy and being able to see their implications for social work practice und social policy on a local, national and international level • Capacity to integrate and apply social policy theories with processes and policies on international and national levels – to synthesize and contextualize analytical knowledge • To be able to anticipate future impacts of policies and developments in the filed of social work and social policy
5. Contents (Syllabus outline):	I. BASIC CONCEPTS

- Paradigm, theory, model, concept, action theory, method, technique
- Ontological (e.g. realism vs. constructivism, the micro-macro-link) and epistemological (e.g. .truth, intuitionism vs. rationalism, phenomenology/positivism vs. critical rationalism) approaches to theory construction
- Description, explanation/understanding (verstehen/determination-indetermination), valuation, actor-system, planned action, solution-orientation - as professional knowledge types
- Theory/Science-Based Practice – the role of science in social work and social policy
- Professionalisation
- Comparison of theories and methods – the dimensions

II. SOCIAL WORK THEORIES AND METHODS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

- 1. Basic/Classical Texts – a historical and actual overview in comparative perspective**
 - Biographies
 - Theoretical contributions
 - Social work/social pedagogy
- 2. Social and learning problems as object base of social work**
 - Theories of human needs and human learning
 - Individual/categorical marginality and exclusion (poverty, unemployment, discrimination, racism/sexism, violence etc.) and problems of socialisation and learning during the life cycle
 - The individual as member of horizontal interaction-types, vertical power structures and subcultures
- 3. Philosophical and theoretical approaches to social work**
 - Philosophical approaches
 - Theoretical approaches
- 4. Values, ethics and goals of social work theories**
 - Well-Being
 - Emancipation
 - Social Justice, equality, solidarity
 - Human dignity and human rights
- 5. Actors and practice fields of social work**
- 6. Research-based methods of social work**

- The action-centered general questions of each method
- Cultural, societal and organisational context as condition for professional action
- Different science-based methods (e.g. resource mobilisation, conscientisation, transcultural understanding, mediation, capacity(strength-) building, empowerment/advocacy, contributions in public debates etc.)
- Methods according to different social levels: individual, family, group, community/ecology, organisational level
- Changing the organisational, cultural and societal conditions?
- Evaluation procedures

III. THEORIES AND APPROACHES OF SOCIAL POLICY IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

- **Basic/classical texts**
 - Philosophies and theories of social policy
 - Welfare paradigm,
 - Welfare regimes,
 - Basic principles and comparative development
- **Social inequality, poverty and globalisation**
 - The Washington Consensus and its worldwide consequences
 - New poverty (working poor)
 - Flexicurity, work, trade unions and social rights,
 - Social Europe
 - Globalisation and the role of civil society
 - New social movements, including religious fundamentalism
- **The object and actor base of social policy**
 - Power, control and state regulation
 - Defining social problems
 - Strategies of marginalization and ideology of exclusion/cohesion
 - Criminalization of poverty (migrants, people without papers, minorities)
 - Policy of gender, age, body, nationality and religion
- **Social policy planning and intervention**
 - Critical policy analysis
 - State, market, civil society and privatisation
 - Responsive services and the role of users
 - Democratic participation in service creation and delivery

IV. LINKS BETWEEN SOCIAL MICRO- AND SOCIAL MACROPRATICE (JOINT TEACHING)

- The links between social work and policy, micro and macro-practice
- Multilevel practice - from the local to the international level
- Transnational Social Policy – the globalisation of social work and social policy
- Case Studies

6.

Literature:

1. Theories of Social Work

1. Banks Sarah (1995): Ethics and values in Social Work, New York
2. Bourdieu, Pierre (1993): *La misère du monde*, Paris
3. Cox, D./Pawar, M. (2006): *Social Work. Issues, Strategies, Programs*, Sage, London
4. Healy, Lynne M. (2001): *International Social Work*, Oxford Univ. Press, New York
5. Hollstein-Brinkmann, Heino/Staub-Bernasconi, Silvia (Hg.) (2005): *Systemtheorien im Vergleich. Was leisten Systemtheorien für die Soziale Arbeit? Versuch eines Dialogs*, VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften, Wiesbaden,
6. Kirst-Ashman, K.K./Hull, G.H. (1993): *Understanding Generalist Practice*, Nelson-Hall Publ., Chicago
7. Lovelock, R./Lyons, K./Powell, J. (eds): *Reflecting on Social Work, Discipline and Profession*, Palgrave, Ashgate
8. Mullaly, Bob (1997): *Structural Social Work. Ideology, Theory and Practice*, Oxford Univ. Press, New York
9. Parton, Niigel (ed.) (1996): *Social Theory, Social Change and Social Work*. Routledge 1996.
10. Ramon, Shulamit (1998): *The Interface between Social Work and Social Policy*, Venture Press, Birmingham
11. Reamer, Frederic G. (1993): *Philosophical Foundations of Social Work*, New York
12. Soydan, Haluk (1999): *The History of Ideas in Social Work*, Venture Press, Birmingham/UK
13. Staub-Bernasconi, Silvia (2007a): *Social Work: Theory and Methods*, in: Ritzer, George (Ed.) *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology, SE-ST, Vol. IX*, Blackwell Publishing, USA/UK:4541-4546
14. Weiss, Idit/Welbourne, Penelope (2007): *Social Work as a Profession: A Comparative Cross-National Perspective*, Venture Press, Birmingham/UK
15. *Selected texts of Weber, Marx, Habermas, Goffman, Foucault, Luhmann*

2. Theories of Social Policy

1. Balibar, Étienne (2001), *Nous, citoyens d'Europe? Les Frontières, l'État, le peuple*. La Découverte, Paris.
2. Barry, Brian (2005), *Why Social Justice Matters*, Polity, Cambridge.
3. Bauman, Zygmunt (2005), *work, Consumption and the new poor*, Open University Press, New York.
4. Bourdieu, Pierre 1995(): *Die feinen Unterschiede*, Suhrkamp, Frankfurt/M
5. Butler, Tim, Watt, Paul (2007), *Understanding Social Inequality*, Sage Publications, London.
6. Dean, Mitchell (2006), *Governmentality: Power and Rule in Modern Society*, Sage Publications, London.
7. Doyal, L./Gough, I. (1991): *A Theory of Human Need*, Macmillan, London
8. Esping-Andersen Gosta (1990): *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*, Polity Press, Cambridge
9. Esping-Andersen Gosta (2003): *Why we need a New Welfare State*, Oxford University Press, New York
10. Giddens, Anthony, Diamond, Patrick, Liddle Roger (2006), *Global Europe, Social Europe*, Polity, Cambridge.
11. Held, David (2004): *Global Covenant. The Social Democratic Alternative to the Washington Consensus*, Polity Press, Cambridge
12. Heller, Agnes (1984): *Power and Shame*, Routledge
13. Midgley, James (1997): *Social Welfare in Global Context*, Sage, London
14. Nussbaum Martha C./Sen, Amartya (1993): *The Quality of Life*, Oxford
15. Petras, James, Veltmeyer Henry (2005), *Social Movements and State Power*, Pluto Press, London
16. Rawls, John (1971): *A Theory of Justice*, Cambridge
17. Sennett, Richard (2002): *Respect in a World of Inequality*, Norton
18. Shue, Henry (1996): *Basic Social Rights*, Princeton Univ., Princeton
19. Shragge, Eric (Ed.) (1997): *Workfare – Ideology for a New Under-Class*, Garamond Press
20. Steiner, H.J./Alston, Ph. (2000): *International Human Rights in Context. Law, Politics, Moral*, Oxford University Press, New York
21. Sylvester, Christine (2002): *Feminist International Relations – An Unfinished Journey*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge/UK
22. Theresa Wobbe (2000): *Weltgesellschaft*, Transcript, Bielefeld
23. Yeates, Nicolas (2001): *Gloalization and Social Policy*, Sagen, London

Teaching methods:	• Lectures, seminars, workshops, presentations • Group assignments • Text analysis according to the basic questions of an Applied Science/ Professional Theory • Comparison of theory-, policy-concepts in their relevance for practice The students can gain the required credits with attendance at the lectures or with the participation at the seminars which are dealing with the above mentioned area. Students will be supervised during their self study hours. Since it is an international study programme, some classes will be delivered electronically (videoconferences, teleconferences, DVD, chat etc.).
8. Assessment methods:	The students will be required to show full knowledge of the required literature with emphasis on their own research topic. The assessment methods will include: - Assessment of the individual research work related to the module; - student's presentations of the theoretical part of the doctoral thesis and/or writing and presentation of a subject related seminar paper showing that one is able to analyse and criticize conceptions of social work theory and social policy according to their philosophical premises and implications for practice. In special circumstances the student can ask to be assessed with oral or written exam instead of the above mentioned assessment methods. Seminar papers, projects, research work are graded according to the following grading scale: 10 – excellent: outstanding performance with only minor errors 9 – very good: above the average standard but with some errors 8 – good: generally sound work with a number of notable errors 7 – satisfactory: fair but with significant shortcomings 6 – sufficient: performance meets the minimum criteria 1-5 – fail: performance does not meet the minimum criteria At the end of the module the student will gain 10 credits.
9. References (3-5)	Prof. Dr. Silvia M. Staub-Bernasconi 1) Staub-Bernasconi, Silvia (1986): Soziale Arbeit als eine besondere Art des Umgangs mit Menschen, Dingen und Ideen – Zur Entwicklung einer handlungstheoretischen

Wissensbasis Sozialer Arbeit, In: Sozialarbeit, Okt. 1986:2-60

- 2) Staub-Bernasconi, Silvia (1995): Systemtheorie, Soziale Probleme und Soziale Arbeit: lokal-national-international. Oder: Vom Ende der Bescheidenheit, Haupt/Bern, Stuttgart, Wien.
- 3) Staub-Bernasconi, Silvia (1998): Soziale Probleme – Soziale Berufe – Soziale Praxis, In: Heiner, M./Meinhold, M./von Spiegel, H., Staub-Bernasconi, S.: Methodisches Handeln in der Sozialen Arbeit, Lambertus/Freiburg, 4. Aufl.
- 4) Staub-Bernasconi, Silvia (2007): Soziale Arbeit als Handlungswissenschaft, UTB/Haupt, Bern, Stuttgart, Wien.
- 5) Staub-Bernasconi, Silvia (2007): Soziale Arbeit als Dienstleistung oder Menschenrechtsprofession? Zum Selbstverständnis Sozialer Arbeit in Deutschland mit einem Seitenblick auf die internationale Diskussionslandschaft, in: Lob-Hüdepohl, A./Lech, W. (Hg.): Ethik Sozialer Arbeit. Ein Handbuch, UTB/Schöningh, Paderborn.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Vesna Leskošek

- 1) Dragoš, Srečo in Leskošek, Vesna (2003): Social inequality and social capital. Ljubljana: Mirovni inštitut.
- 2) Leskošek, Vesna (2005): The role of the Slovenian women's movement in the development of social work : history of social work in Slovenia, 1900 - 1940. V: Schilde, Kurt (ur.), Schulte, Dagmar (ur.). Need and care : glimpses into the beginnings of Eastern Europe's professional welfare. Opladen, Blommfield Hills: Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2005, str. 149-160.
- 3) Leskošek, Vesna, Dragoš, Srečo. Community and social capital in Slovenia: the impact of transition. European journal of social work, 2004, vol. 7, no 1, p. 73-88.
- 4) Leskošek, Vesna (2006): Politica sociale e servizi sociali in transizione: il caso della Slovenia. V: Nuove solidarietà nell'allargamento dell'Unione Europea : a cura dei Corsi di studio in Servizio sociale Università di Trieste, (GreX). Milano: Franco Angeli, 2006, p. 121-132.
- 5) Leskošek, Vesna (2003): Slovenia: a synopsis of social services system. V: Anheier, Helmut K. (ur.), KUMAR, Sarabajaya (ur.). Social services in Europe : an annotated bibliography. Updated and extended ed. [Germany]: Observatory for the Development of Social Services in

Europe: = Observatorium für die Entwicklung der sozialen Dienste in Europa, 2003, p. 341-356.

Prof. Dr. Mikko Mäntysaari

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- 3) Mäntysaari, Mikko (1994): Problems of Social Work in a Recession? Have social workers been left on their own. In "Social Work in Scandinavia – Presentations, Changes and Challenges. Tampere University.
- 4) Mäntysaari, Mikko (2000): Social Work Management in Finland. In Harlow, E./Lawler, J.: Management, Social Work, and Change. Ashgate /Aldershot.
- 5) Mäntysaari, Mikko (2005): Realism as a Foundation for Social Work Knowledge. Qualitative Social Work 4 (1).
- 6) Mäntysaari, Mikko (2005): Propitious Omens. Finnish Social Work research as a laboratory of change. European Journal of Social Work 8 (3).

Prof. Dr. Sabine Hering

- 1) Hering, Sabine/Waaldijk, Berteke (2006): Guardians of the Poor - Custodians of the Public. Welfare History in Eastern Europe. Opladen/Farmington Hills.
- 2) Hering, Sabine/Waaldijk, Berteke eds.(2003): History of Social Work in Europe (1900-1960). Female Pioneers and their Influence on the Developement of International Social Organizations. Opladen/Farmington Hills.
- 3) Hering, Sabine/Münchmeier, Richard (2005): Geschichte der Sozialen Arbeit. Eine Einführung. Weinheim und München.
- 4) Hering, Sabine, eds. (forthcoming 2009): Social Care under State Socialism (1945-1989).

Assist. Prof. Dr. Maria Maiss

- 1) Maiss, Maria (2006): Ethisch-moralische Propädeutik. Erziehungsethische Überlegungen zur Psycho- und Soziogenese prä-moralischer und moralischer Fähigkeiten. Münster: LIT 2006.
- 2) Maiss, Maria/Pantucek, Peter (2008): Theorie mit Leidenschaft: Ilse Arlt . Weiterhin aktuelle Fragen der Sozialen Arbeit, in: Soziale Arbeit, Zeitschrift für soziale und sozialverwandte Gebiete 6, 2008, S. 202-211.
- 3) Maiss, Maria/Stattler, Ursula (2008): Social Space-Oriented Brief Intervention for Politicians in Communities and Social Workers, in: Jakob, Mariana Christen/Reichmuth, Judith (ed.) (2008): Community Development: Local and Global Challenges, Interact, Lucerne
- 4) Maiss, Maria (2007): „Der Traum von einem qualitätsvolleren Leben“ in: Rätz, Werner/Zenker Birgit/Exner Andreas (Hg.): Reichtum für Alle? Das Buch zum Grundeinkommen, Wien: Deuticke.
- 5) Maiss, Maria (2002): Das gute Leben oder Reichtum als volle Erfüllung menschlicher Verwirklichungschancen. In: Die Armutskonferenz, Attac, Beigewum (Hg.): Was Reichtümer vermögen. Gewinner und Verlierer in europäischen Wohlfahrtsstaaten. Wien: Mandelbaum.