

The Nordic Experience

History, Society, Politics, Culture and Welfare



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Organizing Institutions: **SDU:** University of Southern Denmark (coordinator); contact person: Klaus Petersen (Klaus.petersen@sdu.dk); **UEF:** University of Eastern Finland; contact persons: Anitta Etula (anitta.etula@uef.fi); **UT:** University of Tampere; contact person: Leena Uski (Leena.Uski@staff.uta.fi)

Venue: HGX401, Guang Hua Towers, Fudan University

Time: Tuesday 6:30 p.m. (A lecture of two 45-mins sessions followed by a 1-hour seminar discussion)

Deadline for submitting the course paper: January 16th 12:00 p.m.

COURSE OUTLINE

September 6th: Introduction

Magnus Jorem (Nordic Centre): *Introduction to the course*

September 13th: Lecture 1

Klaus Petersen (SDU): *Introduction to the Nordic Countries: geography, history, politics, the Nordic model*

September 20th: Lecture 2

Pirjo Markkola (UT): *Nordic pathways of Modernization and the expansion of the welfare state*

September 27th: Lecture 3

Anne-Marie Mai (SDU): *The Sense of Modernity in Nordic Literature*

WEEK 40 is national holiday

October 11th: Lecture 4

Pertti Koistinen (UT): *Nordic Labour Markets*

October 18th: Lecture 5

Robert Klemmensen (SDU): *Nordic political institutions and party system*

October 25th: Lecture 6

Katja Repo (Tampere): *Nordic family policy*

November 1st: Lecture 7

Jaana Kuusipalo (Tampere): *Nordic gender policies*

November 8th: Lecture 8

Suvianna Hakalehto-Wainio (U Eastern Finland), *Nordic Civil Society*

November 15th: Lecture 9

Ilkka Liikanen (U Eastern Finland): *Nordic Countries in Changing Global Security Environment*

November 22nd Lecture 10

Juha Hänninen (U Eastern Finland): *Social Work in the Nordic countries*

November 29th: Lecture 11

Johs. Nørregaard Frandsen (SDU): *Nordic literature: Hans Christian Andersen: Fairytales and Imagination as Nordic and Global Phenomenon*

December 6th: Lecture 12

Pertti Alasuutari (Tampere): *The future of the Nordic model*

December 13th: Conclusions, Q&A

Klaus Petersen: *Essay writing seminar*

Week 37: 13 September 2016

Lecture 1:

Theme: *Introduction to the Nordic Countries – Geography, History, Politics*

Lecturer: Professor *Klaus Petersen*, University of Southern Denmark

Description:

The lecture will give an introduction to the geography and political history of the five Nordic countries. It will introduce and explain the concepts of ‘Scandinavia’ and ‘Norden’, and briefly outline the history of state and nation building towards the consolidation since the Second World War in 1945 of five independent Nordic nation states and welfare states of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. It will also present the autonomous area of Åland Islands (part of Finland) and the areas of home rule – Faroe Islands and Greenland (part of Denmark). The lecture will introduce and discuss the image or social construction of a ‘Nordic model’. Finally, the lecture will address stereotypes about the Nordic model and the major cross-cutting themes of the course.

Readings:

- Mary Hilson: *The Nordic Model. Scandinavia since 1945* (London: Reaktion Books, 2008), Introduction (pp. 11-24) and chapter 1 (pp. 25-55)
- Øystein Sørensen and Bo Stråth: “Introduction: The Cultural Construction of Norden”, Chapter 1 (pp. 1-24) in Øystein Sørensen and Bo Stråth (eds), *The Cultural Construction of Norden* (Oslo: Scandinavian University Press, 1997).
- Knut Heidar: “State and Nation-building in the Nordic Area”, Chapter I (pp. 9-23) in Knut Heidar (ed.), *Nordic Politics: Comparative Perspectives* (Oslo: Universitetsforlaget, 2004)

Week 38: 20 September 2016

Lecture 2:

Theme: *Nordic Pathways of Modernization and the Expansion of the Welfare State*

Lecturer: Professor *Pirjo Markkola*, University of Tampere

Description:

This lecture continues to introduce the students to the history of the Nordic countries. It will give a brief outline of the main characteristics of modernization, industrialization and urbanization in the 19th and 20th centuries. Regional differentiation and the dominance of agriculture in some parts of the Nordic countries is emphasized, as well as industrialization and the degree of urbanization in some other parts. Poor relief and poverty policies since the 18th century is discussed; however, the focus will be on the 20th century.

Periodization of welfare policies is presented, following the model outlined in *The Nordic Model of Welfare* (2006), i.e. the era of poor law and philanthropy, the extension of social rights, the “golden age” of welfare, and new challenges since the late 20th century. Most recent development in welfare policies will be covered by other lectures. This lecture focuses on the multilayered historicity of the welfare state, presenting Lutheranism, labour movement, women’s movement, agrarian parties and political coalitions, among others, as various layers of current societies.

Readings:

- History of the Nordic region:
<http://www.norden.org/en/fakta-om-norden-1/history-of-the-nordic-region>
- Niels Finn Christiansen and Pirjo Markkola, “Introduction”. In: Niels Finn Christiansen, Klaus Petersen, Nils Edling and Per Haave (eds) *The Nordic Model of Welfare. A Historical Reappraisal* (Copenhagen: Museum Tusulanum Press, 2006) pp. 9–29.
- Data on Population and Politics in the Nordic Countries, compiled by Nils Edling. In: Niels Finn Christiansen, Klaus Petersen, Nils Edling and Per Haave (eds) *The Nordic Model of Welfare. A Historical Reappraisal* (Copenhagen: Museum Tusulanum Press, 2006) pp. 355–363.
- Mary Hilson, “The Nordic Model of Welfare”. In: Mary Hilson, *The Nordic Model. Scandinavia since 1945* (London: Reaction Books, 2008) pp. 87–115 AND *Tables & Figures*, pp. 188–192.

Week 39: 27 September 2016

Lecture 3:

Theme: *Nordic Pathways of Modernization and the Expansion of the Welfare State*

Lecturer: Professor *Anne-Marie Mai*, University of Southern Denmark

Description:

The lecture discusses the sense of modernity that is part of Nordic 19th Century Literature. In several of his tales Hans Christian Andersen imagined the future and the cultural globalization-to be and he longed to be part of it. The lecture discusses the longing for modern times and women's liberation in texts by Hans Christian Andersen and Henrik Ibsen. The lecture is concluded by an outline of the sense of the global in contemporary Nordic Literature.

Short videos and film sequences will be included.

Readings:

- Primary Texts: Hans Christian Andersen: "The New Century's Goddess", "The little Mermaid" and Henrik Ibsen: *A Doll's House*.
- The New Century's Goddess:
<http://www.andersen.sdu.dk/vaerk/hersholt/TheNewCenturysGoddess.html>
- The Little Mermaid:
<http://www.andersen.sdu.dk/vaerk/hersholt/TheLittleMermaid.html?soegeord=the+little+merrmaid&case=0&heleord=0&ord=AND>
- A Doll's House:
<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/2542/2542-h/2542-h.htm#act3>

Week 41: 11 October 2016

Lecture 4

Theme: *The construction of Nordic labour markets, employment protection*

Lecturer: Professor *Pertti Koistinen*, Tampere University

Description:

The main idea of the lecture is to demonstrate the labour markets as social construction and shaped and structured by various actors, institutions and policies. By actors we mean the behavior of employees, employers and their institutional representatives as well as public authorities, regulators and institutions. In the European context the welfare state institutions intervene the behavior of workers and employers and sets rules of the game when enterprises are restructuring their production process.

The lecture introduces the participants of the course 1) to the concept of employment protection, and 2) sociological understanding of restructuring and restructuring policies. The course includes two lectures, Readings: materials and discussion. All the slides of lectures and Readings: materials will be available in online two weeks in advance before the course starts.

After completion of the course the student will be able to understand the forms and objectives of the employment protection and the role of public interventions in the context major restructuring. After the course students will understand why national employment systems are under pressures of change and why the policies, which ought to be able to regulate and manage the restructuring, are requested to become more global in their targets and means of interventions.

Readings:

- Ahlstrand, Roland (2010) Social Responsibility in Connection with Business Closures: A Study of the Close-Down of Ericsson Telecom Facilities in Norrköping and Linköping. *Economic and Industrial Democracy* 31:4, 537–555.
- Castel, Robert (2000) The Roads to Disaffiliation: Insecure Work and Vulnerable Relationships. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 24:3, 519–535.
- DeAlpa, Luis (2010) Toward an International Implementation of Public Policies in Human Rights: A Necessary Step in Every Democratization Process for Advancements in Economic and Social Right Politics & Policy, Volume 40, No. 5 (2012): 783-801. 10.1111/j.1747-1346.2012.00385.x
- Henningsen, M & Hægeland, T. (2008) Downsizing as a sorting device - Are low-productive workers more likely to leave downsizing firms?
- Sen, Amartya (2000) Work and Rights. *International Labour Review* 139:2, 119–128.

Week 42: 18 October 2016

Lecture 5: Nordic Politics

Theme: *Nordic political institutions and party system*

Lecturer: Professor *Robert Klemmensen*, University of Southern Denmark

Description:

In this class we shall discuss the evolution of the Nordic party system. We shall look at these changes at the party level and the party system level. We discuss link changes at the party system level to societal changes and hence we shall also discuss the which major societal changes made it possible for the various political interest to emerge. At the party level we investigate the major organizational changes that the parties have gone through in the Nordic countries. We also investigate the differences in the configuration of party systems across the Nordic countries taking into account the differences and similarities between the cases.

At the party-level we investigate how organizational changes in have diminished the influence of organized party members at the expense of voters. Across parties we now see a much focus on the absolute party elites compared to earlier. The class ends with a discussion of the what the consequences of future societal changes will be for the Nordic systems, their parties and whether new political cleavages emerges.

Readings:

Besides Readings: the two classical texts below the students will be introduced to data on Nordic politics.

- Richard Katz & Peter Mair, 'Changing Models of Party Organization and Party Democracy', *Party Politics*, 1 (1), 1995: 5-28.
- Peter Mair (ed.), *The West European Party System*, Oxford University Press 1990, Chapters 13, 14 and 24.

Week 43: 25 October 2016

Lecture 6: Nordic Family Policy

Theme: *Child care policies*

Lecturer: Professor *Katja Repo*, University of Tampere

Description:

The key element of Nordic countries is their emphasis on the integration of gender equality in family roles and responsibilities. In addition, the level of social expenditure allocated to family policy is relatively high. (see Morgen 2007.) The lecture will present the main features and rationalities of the Nordic family policy and discusses policies implications to daily life of families.

The lecture uses childcare policies as an example. Childcare is one of the most significant elements of family policies in Nordic societies and serving various policy aims. The Nordic welfare states have also a long history of state intervention in and responsibility for childcare. As such, the Nordic countries can be labelled social service states in which childcare services are universally provided and available for all, and can be used without stigma or loss of status (Anttonen and Sipilä 1994; Eydal and Rostgaard, 2011). In addition, many Nordic welfare states also provide parents with cash-for-care benefits that enable them to rely on informal or private care solutions.

In the discussion, we will compare the main features of childcare policy of the country of students' origin to Nordic one.

Readings:

- Huset Mandag Morgen (2007): What lies ahead for the Nordic model? Chapter 3
<http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:702529/FULLTEXT01.pdf>
- Social Protection in the Nordic Countries 2013/2014 *Scope, Expenditure and Financing* Chapter 3
<http://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:882555/FULLTEXT01.pdf>

Week 44: 1 November 2016

Lecture 7: Nordic Gender Policies

Theme: *Gender equality*

Lecturer: Professor *Jaana Kuusipalo* , University of Tampere

Description:

One of the characteristics of the Nordic countries is gender equality. According to the *Global Gender Gap Report* of 2015 which measures gender equality in the areas of health, education, economy and politics, the four Nordic countries (Iceland, Norway, Finland and Sweden) hold the four top spots (having closed over 80 percent of the gender gap).

The lecture presents the main characteristics of the women-friendly Nordic welfare states, which have promoted both social and gender equality resulting in women's high labour market participation. The Nordic countries have the highest percentages of women in parliament and ministerial level positions in the world. The success of Nordic women in working life and politics is also due to gender equality policies including gender quotas first initiated in the Nordic countries. The women-friendly Nordic model is not only a result of the Nordic political culture based upon "a passion for equality", but much of the credit should be given also to women's own agency in civil society and politics.

The lecture brings up some problems of the Nordic gender equality policy. It has been argued that Nordic gender policy has been blind to ethnic and sexual diversity, although efforts have been made to apply intersectional approach to gender equality policies. Secondly, the public sector that has been "a woman's best friend" in the Nordic countries, is being threatened. Public welfare services are first in the list when governments cut public expenses because of economic and political reasons. We will also discuss why the privatization of public services and the transition from women-friendly welfare policy to "market-friendly" social policy may be a threat to gender equality.

The discussion followed by lectures is structured by two questions: Firstly, what kind of model for gender equality there is in China compared to the Nordic model, and secondly, what kind of ideal of gender equality the students themselves would like to promote.

Readings:

- Anttonen, Anneli (2002) Universalism and social policy: A Nordic-feminist reevaluation. In *Nora*, Vol. 10, no. 2, p. 71-80.
- Borchorst, Anette & Siim, Birte (2002) The women-friendly welfare states revisited. In *Nora*, Vol. 10, no. 2, p. 90-98.
- Dahlerup, Drude & Leyenaar, Monique (2013) Introduction to the four cross-national chapters. In Dahlerup, Drude & Leyenaar, Monique (eds.) (2013) *Breaking Male Dominance in Old Democracies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, p. 221-237.

- Dahlerup, Drude & Leyenaar, Monique (2013) Conclusion. In Dahlerup, Drude & Leyenaar, Monique (eds.) (2013) *Breaking Male Dominance in Old Democracies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, p. 296-309.

Extra Readings:s:

- Anttonen, Anneli & Häikiö, Liisa (2011) Care 'going market': Finnish elderly-care policies in transition. In *NJSR Nordic Journal of Social Research*, Special Issue, p. 70-90.
- Lister, Ruth (2009) A Nordic Nirvana? Gender, Citizenship, and Social Justice in the Nordic Welfare States. In *Social Politics*, Vol. 16, Issue 2, p. 242-278.

Useful links:

- <http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GGGR2015/cover.pdf> (The Global Gender Gap Report)
- <http://www.norden.org/en/fakta-om-norden-1/gender-equality-indicators> (Nordic Gender Equality Indicators)

Week 45: 8 November 2016

Lecture 8: Nordic Legal Culture

Theme: *Social rights and basic education in the Nordic countries*

Lecturer: Professor *Suvianna Hakalehto-Wainio*, University of Eastern Finland

Description:

In a modern Nordic welfare state, social issues permeate almost the whole legal system. The central legislation in social law regulates the position of individuals and families. The legal principles of social welfare include for example the principle of need, client's right of self-determination, respect for the client's integrity and the participatory principle. During our lectures we will be talking about the Nordic model from the point of view of citizen. We will be learning how free education, social and economic security and health care have been organized in legislation and how the rights of vulnerable individuals and groups (children, disable people, old people, refugees) are promoted and protected through the legislation and court praxis.

Topics of discussion:

- 1) Participation of citizens and different groups is one of the key features of the Nordic model. We will be discussing how children (people under eighteen) can participate in decision making in different areas of society (home, health care, school, municipal level) in China and in Nordic countries.
- 2) It is an important feature of Nordic legal system that if a citizen is not satisfied with a decision or acting of an authority, there are several legal safeguards which can be used. Legal safeguards are aimed at ensuring that a case involving an individual reaches a materially correct resolution, which in practice, for example, actualizes the social rights belonging to the individual. We will be discussing what are the characteristics of access to justice in China and in Nordic countries.

Readings:

- Finland- Strong Performers and Successful Reformers in Education:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwD1v73O4VI>
- Key figures on early childhood and basic education in Finland
http://www.oph.fi/download/170048_key_figures_on_early_childhood_and_basic_education_in_finland.pdf
- Ombudsman for children in Sweden:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guTp9jvY9Qo>

- Social security in Sweden:
http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/empl_portal/SSRinEU/Your%20social%20security%20rights%20in%20Sweden_en.pdf
- Benefits for families and children (Finland):
http://www.kela.fi/documents/10180/1978560/2015_Home_family2.pdf/e168218a-8128-49f4-a6e8-5b7a14fbe87b
- Social and family policy in Iceland:
<https://www.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/research/nordic/icelandpoli.pdf>
- The Nursing Home of the Future, Aalborg, Denmark:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hglB444kpLA>

Week 46: 15 November 2016

Lecture 9: Nordic Region in International Politics

Theme: *Nordic Countries in Changing Global Security Environment*

Lecturer: Professor *Ilkka Liikanen*, University of Eastern Finland

Description:

According to a common conviction, the Nordic Countries form one of the most stable regions on post-Cold war global security scene. Recently, the Ukraine-crisis has, however, changed views on both the nature of post-Cold war international order and the security situation in the Baltic Sea area. Many Nordic politicians and journalists have interpreted the changes in global security environment in terms of the “return of the Cold War” and estimated that also Nordic borders are affected by a new kind of combination of traditional geopolitical and novel “hybrid” security threats.

This lecture seeks to understand changes in the position of the Nordic Countries both through historical analysis of the legacies of state-making and nation-building in the European North and through contemporary investigation of consequences of post-Cold war changes in global security environment. The aim of the course is to understand how shifts in the great power relations have been reflected in Nordic political and economic Cooperation and especially how policies of Russia have affected Nordic security conceptions. The starting point of the analysis is the recent Foreign and Security Policy Report of the Finnish government that analyses Finnish security environment in the broader Nordic context and as part of evolving relations of Russian Federation and the EU. Special attention is paid to conceptual change of the political language and how it reflects complications in the process of European integration and the external relations of the EU. In particular, students are introduced to the conceptual and theoretical underpinnings of post-Cold war changes in assessments of Nordic security cooperation. The objective is to learn to recognize the variety of theoretical approaches and to understand their contested nature and links to contemporary political agendas.

Readings:

- Thomas Nilsen, Security situation in the Nordic countries significantly worsened. April 10, 2015. <http://barentsobserver.com/en/security/2015/04/security-situation-nordic-countries-significantly-worsened-10-04>
- Johan Strang, Nordic Political and Economic Cooperation: Context, History and Outlook. February 2016. <http://www.asean-aemi.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/AEMI-Forum-November-2015-Strang-Feb2016.pdf>
- Teija Tiilikainen, The Nordic countries and the EU–NATO relationship. <http://books.sipri.org/files/books/SIPRI06BaHeSu/SIPRI06BaHeSu02.pdf>
- Government Report on Finnish Foreign and Security Policy. Prime Minister’s Office Publications 9/2016. <http://valtioneuvosto.fi/documents/10616/1986338/VNKJ092016+en.pdf/b33c3703-29f4-4cce-a910-b05e32b676b9>

Week 47: 22 November 2016

Lecture 10: Social Work in the Nordic Countries

Theme: *Social work and social policy*

Lecturer: Professor *Juha Hämäläinen*, University of Eastern Finland

Description:

This lecture is about introducing the nature and position of social work in the Nordic countries. Although a common concept of ‘Nordic Social Work’ has never been constructed, there are good reasons for considering social work in the Nordic context. Each Nordic country – Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden – has a country-specific tradition of social work but they also have many shared characteristics. Due to the fact that the individual Nordic societies are organized on the basis of the Nordic welfare model, there are many similarities in the societal conditions and structures which social work is shaped by.

The cross-national studies of social work deal mainly with national models of social policy, country-specific features of the social work profession, and the nature of professional practices in individual countries. Attention is often paid to the fact that social, economic, political and cultural factors play a significant distinguishing role in social work affairs. The socio-political system, economy, administration and legal system, in particular, are fundamental societal sub-systems for social work. When speaking about social work in the Nordic countries it is necessary to pay attention to the Nordic societal order.

The Nordic understanding of social work is closely connected with the Nordic welfare ideology. Therefore, the lecture starts by introducing some basic elements of the Nordic welfare model relevant to social work. Paying attention to some significant historic-cultural and system-theoretical factors, social work is introduced as a functional social system in terms of an academic discipline, a field of research, and a particular profession for practice. As a professional agency social work deals with several problem fields of the modern society consisting of many kinds of duties and requiring many kinds of professional expertise.

In the lecture, which introduces the concept of ‘research-based social work’ adopted widely in the Nordic countries, social work education and research are considered from the point of view of professional expertise. Attention is paid to the usual approaches and methods as well as the agencies, organization and governance of social work activities in the Nordic countries. Throughout the lecture the nature of Nordic social work is compared with social work in China. Finally, a glance is cast at current trends and tendencies of social change from the point of view of challenges and future prospects for social work both in the Nordic countries and China.

Readings:

- Gustafsson Björn, Höjer Staffan, Lis Shi, Yuxin Pei (eds.) (2013) Special Issue: Children and families, assistance and welfare – social work in China and Sweden, *China Journal of Social Work*, 6 (3), pp. 223–epi. DOI:10.1080/17525098.2013.840798

Kongshoj Kristian (2013) Chinese developmentalism and Nordic universalism – or the other way around? Points of convergence in Sino-Nordic income protection. *Journal of Asian Public Policy*, 6 (3), pp. 292–312. DOI:10.1080/17516234.2013.850228

Week 48: 29 November 2016

Lecture 11: Nordic Literature

Theme: *Hans Christian Andersen: Fairytales and Imagination as Nordic and Global Phenomenon*

Lecturer: Professor Johs. Nørregaard Frandsen, University of Southern Denmark

Description:

Hans Christian Andersen told his stories and his tales in a way that was both very modern and very traditional. He is as a writer and an artist both European/international and very Nordic/Danish and maybe that is why his tales plays such a great role in a global context today? The lecture discusses Hans Christian Andersen's cultural significance in China and Asia today and asks the question: Are Hans Christian Andersen very Nordic or very global as a teller of tales? So what is the Nordic and what is not in the tales of Hans Christian Andersen?

Primary Texts: Hans Christian Andersen: "The Snow Queen", "Thumbelina"

Readings:

- The Snow Queen:
<http://www.andersen.sdu.dk/vaerk/hersholt/TheSnowQueen.html>
- Thumbelina:
<http://www.andersen.sdu.dk/vaerk/hersholt/Thumbelina.html>
- On the actantial model by Greimas:
<http://www.signosemio.com/greimas/actantial-model.asp>
- Ye Rulan: "Hans Christian Andersen in China: An Overview", Johs. Nørregaard Frandsen, Sun Jian, Torben Grøngaard Jeppesen (eds.), *Hans Christian Andersen in China*. Odense/Shanghai 2014, page 75-93

Week 49: 6 December 2016

Lecture 12: The Future of the Nordic Model

Theme: *Globalization and the international circulation of ideas*

Lecturer: Professor *Pertti Alasuutari* , University of Tampere

Description:

The lecture discusses, and tries to predict, the future of the Nordic model of the welfare state by treating it as a kind of brand that is used by policymakers in justifying national policy decisions by appealing to good or bad experience from other countries. Existing research shows that references to other countries as examples that one's own country could follow or avoid have been part of national policymaking for more than 200 years, but the idea of policies as codified "models" that can be copied and transferred from one polity to another has become increasingly popular from the 1950s onward. The Scandinavian or Nordic welfare-state model was one such construction; it was mentioned in the literature a few times in 1950s, and the discussion on it exploded from the mid-1980s onward. Consequently, it has become a well-known reference point by which actors can discuss policy choices. On the one hand, the "Nordic" or the "welfare-state model" has provided an alternative to the "neoliberal model", and on the other hand the discussion on the "crisis of the welfare state" started already in the early 1970s.

When perceived from this kind of image politics perspective, it becomes obvious that beliefs and, hence, brands of different catchwords are more important than facts. For the Nordic model, the collapse of the Soviet regime at the beginning of the 1990s was a crucial moment, because the welfare state model was often associated with socialism. The fall of real socialism was commonly considered as proof that state-controlled planned economy is inefficient and compromises individual freedom. On the other hand, the fact that in the 2000s several states had to bail out banks after the global financial crisis caused by unbridled market capitalism, could potentially put in question the lure of neoliberal policies, which have been considered as the self-evident solution to all kinds of problems related to public policies.

Readings:

- Ian R. Cook, 'Mobilising Urban Policies: The Policy Transfer of US Business Improvement Districts to England and Wales', *Urban Studies*, 45 (4), 2008, 773-795.
- David Strang & John W. Meyer, 'Institutional conditions for diffusion', *Theory and Society*, 22, 1993: 487-511.
- Pertti Alusuutari, *The Synchronization of National Policies*, London: Routledge 2016, chapter 7.
- Gøsta-Esping-Andersen, *Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*, Princeton 1990, 1-33

Week 50: 13 December 2016

Lecture 13: Conclusions, Q&A, Exam

Theme: *Summary of course, essay writing seminar*

Lecturer: Professor *Klaus Petersen*, University of Southern Denmark

Description:

The session will fall in two parts. First, we'll discuss the course and summarize the main findings: What characterizes the Nordic region? How does reality fit the stereotypes about the Nordic model? We can also address things that were not covered in course. Second, we'll talk about examines: What is expected from your essay? How to structure an essay? And not the least: We can discuss possible topics for your essays.