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WELFARE STATES IN AMERICA AND SCANDINAVIA

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

The course examines the welfare systems in the United States and Scandinavia. The questions we address include: What is a welfare state? Where did such states come from? What policies comprise a welfare state? What types of welfare state do we find in developed democracies? What problems face welfare states?

TEXTS

Mary Hilson, *The Nordic Model: Scandinavia Since 1945* (Reakton Books, 2008).

Additional articles assigned as we proceed.

The places and people we visit.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS

Readings: Each assignment must be read in its entirety.

Pre-Trip Assignments: Students will be assigned various tasks to help prepare the class for the trip.

Pre-Trip Test: The instructors will administer a short essay test upon arrival in Washington. The test will cover material from the Hilson book and preparation lectures.

Travel Journal: Students will make observations about politics and society in a travel journal. Journals will contain entries on topics announced by the instructors as the trip proceeds. Students will turn in their journals (which may be hand written or typed) before leaving the return plane to Newark.

Participation: Student participation in site briefings is **very important!** Students will be evaluated on the frequency and quality of their questions and comments. They will also be evaluated on their enthusiasm for learning and their general deportment (i.e., conduct) on the tour. In other words, come with a positive attitude, even when you are tired and feeling poorly (as we *all* will at some point late in the trip!!!).

GRADING

Pre-Trip Assignments: 5%

Pre-Trip test: 25%

Travel Journal: 50%

Participation: 20%