

**Pension Politics in Europe**  
**Comparative Analysis of Political Systems**  
**Institute for Social Sciences**  
**Humboldt University Berlin**

Course Number: 53108  
Prof. Ellen M. Immergut, Ph.D.  
SS 2004  
Wednesday  
8:30-12  
Room UNI 3, 001

Office Hours:  
Wednesday 12-13 in Café Meyerbeer

This course will examine the process and progress of pension reform in Europe. It is based on an ongoing DFG-project.  
Helpful prerequisites would be the courses “Theories of the Welfare State” (Immergut) and “Einführung in die politischen Systeme Westeuropas” (Conceicao-Heldt).

Requirements: Weekly memo (2-3 pages, 1-1/2 spacing, font 10 or 12) including three discussion questions to be handed in Mondays by 14:00; research assignment; attendance, including at guest lecture.

Woche 1  
14.04.2004

Introduction

Woche 2  
21.04.2004

State and Market

Bruce Yandle, “Bubbles and Efficiency”

## **I. Pension Systems in Historical Perspective**

Woche 3  
28.04.2004

The Origins of Pension Systems

T. H. Marshall, *Citizenship and Social Class*, in: T. H. Marshall, Class, Citizenship, & Social Development, (Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press, 1963): 71-135.

Gaston V. Rimlinger, *Germany: Out of the Patriarchal Tradition*, in: G. V. Rimlinger, Welfare Policy and Industrialization, (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1971): 89-136.

Woche 4  
05.05.2004

The Expansion of Pension Systems 1940s-1950s

Peter Baldwin, The Politics of Social Solidarity: Class Bases of the European Welfare State 1875-1975, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990). Chapter 4,5

Peter Baldwin, "The Scandinavian Origins of the Social Interpretation of the Welfare State", Comparative Studies in Society and History (1989):3-24.

Woche 5  
12.05.2004

Employers and Pensions 1960s-1970s

Isabela Mares, The Politics of Social Risk: Business and Welfare State Development, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003). Chapter 1, 6, 7

## **II. Pensions and Retrenchment**

Woche 6  
19.05.2004

Britain

Isabelle Schulze and Michael Moran, „Britain“

Woche 7  
26.05.2004

Sweden

Kent Weaver and Karen Andersen, „Sweden“

Woche 8  
02.06.2004

Switzerland

Giuliano Bonoli, „Switzerland“

Woche 9  
09.06.2004

**Research Assignment**

Woche 10  
16.06.2004

Pension Retrenchment in International Comparison

Bernhard Kittel und Herbert Obinger, "Political parties, institutions, and the dynamics of social expenditure in times of austerity", Journal of European Public Policy 10 (2003):20-45.

Friday  
18.06.2005

Guest Lecture: Prof. Dr. Bernhard Kittel

Woche 11  
23.06.2004

Italy

Matteo Jessoula, „Italy“

Woche 12  
30.06.2004

France

Eugenia da Conceição-Heldt, „France“

Woche 13  
07.07.2004

Germany

Isabelle Schulze, „Germany“

Woche 14  
14.07.2003

Conclusions