

**Redistribution Policies and Comparative Welfare States**

Code: 42717  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313228 Social Policy, Employment and Welfare	OT	0	1

### Contact

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### Use of Languages

Principal working language: spanish (spa)

### Teachers

Lluís Flaquer Vilardebó

### Prerequisites

None.

### Objectives and Contextualisation

The module focuses on the analysis and evaluation of different income redistribution mechanisms in contemporary welfare states. Specifically, the module allows the theoretical and empirical study of current social-scientific knowledge on four key issues:

- 1) The normative foundations and principles of distributive justice that welfare states aim to implement, as well as their social perception and valuation.
- 2) The role of income guarantee policies in satisfying the redistributive function of welfare states, and the different alternatives to existing policies.
- 3) The role of family policies and the protection of children in the redistribution of opportunities and resources throughout the individual life cycle.
- 4) The place of these principles and policies in different welfare regimes, in connection with the social-scientific debate on their socio-historical configuration.

For this purpose, the module is structured in two different parts: A first part entitled "Income guarantee policies and distributive justice", and a second part entitled "Family policies and welfare regimes".

### Competences

- Design, implement and evaluate social policies and processes for resource redistribution and improvement of citizens' welfare, in different contexts and from a European perspective.
- Put forward innovative proposals for the relevant field of study.
- Recognise the main economic, political, social and cultural transformations of complex societies in order to analyse the fundamental challenges they pose to equality and welfare.
- Use and manage bibliography and IT resources in the field of study.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse the main dilemmas or trade-offs implied by the application of various distributive principles to guide social welfare policies in different social and historical contexts.
2. Apply methodologies to evaluate the redistributive effect of the above policies.
3. Construct well-reasoned arguments on the main challenges to the redistributive policies of advanced societies in the current economic crisis.
4. Identify the factors conditioning income policies and family policies in different economic, political, social and cultural contexts.
5. Identify the principal findings from the debate on welfare regimes conducted in the social science literature that deals with contemporary welfare states and use these findings to evaluate several redistributive policies.
6. Identify the principal problems of institutional design and implementation of income guarantee policies and family policies in contemporary welfare states.
7. Put forward innovative proposals for the relevant field of study.
8. Use and manage bibliography and IT resources in the field of study.

## Content

### Sessions schedule

Part 1. Income guarantee policies and distributive justice  
Professor José A. Noguera

#### Session 1. Distributive justice and redistribution policies

Theories of distributive justice and distributive criteria.

Utilitarianism. Rawls: justice as equity. Nozick and libertarianism. Cohen and socialist justice. Other egalitarian theories.

Normative and positive social science.

#### Readings:

- Domènech, Antoni (1998). "Ocho *desiderata* metodológicos de las teorías sociales normativas", *Isegoría*, nº 18, pp. 115-141.
- Rawls, John (1971). *Teoría de la justicia* (Madrid, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1995), § 1-4, 17, 43 y pp.280-281.

#### Session 2. Institutional analysis of redistributive policies.

The debate on "equality of what?" Measurements of redistribution and equality: problems and controversies.

Distributive justice and welfare states. What principles of justice do welfare states implement? Universalism vs. selectivism. The principle of redistribution: does (and should) the welfare state benefit the worst-off?

Income guarantee policies and distributive justice. Overview of redistributive policies: the case of income guarantee policies. Types and implications.

Typical problems of the institutional design of income guarantee policies. Income policies and the tax system.

#### Readings:

- Van Parijs, Philippe (1996). "¿Cuándo son justas las desigualdades?", en VV.AA., *Perspectivas teóricas y comparadas de la desigualdad*. Madrid, Fundación Argentaria.
- Noguera, José A. (2017). "Redistribución, predistribución y garantía de rentas", en J. Zalakaín y B. Barragué (coords.), *Repensar las políticas sociales: predistribución e inversión social*. Madrid, Editorial Grupo 5 - Kutxa Fundazioa.

#### Session 3. Main proposals for reform and alternatives to existing policies

Reforms of redistributive and income guarantee policies. Classifications.

Workfare, welfare to work, and in-work benefits; tax credits and wage supplements.

Beyond conditionality: basic income, basic capital, participation income, negative income tax, and similar proposals.

Beyond ex-post redistribution: predistribution, proposals for market socialism and ex-ante regulation in the distribution of income.

Readings:

- Wright, Erik O. (2000). "Propuestas utópicas reales para reducir la desigualdad de ingresos y riqueza", en Roberto Gargarella y Félix Ovejero (comps.), *Razones para el socialismo* (Barcelona, Paidós), pp. 195-221.
- Noguera, José Antonio (2002). "¿Renta Básica o «Trabajo Básico»? Algunos argumentos desde la teoría social", *Sistema*, nº 166 (enero), pp. 61-85.

Session 4. Social perceptions of distributive justice and income policies

Our intuitive ideas about distributive justice.

Research on attitudes toward the welfare state. Main findings. Determinants of social support for income guarantee and redistributive policies.

Experimental research on pro-social motivations and support for redistribution. The framing of income policies.

Readings:

- Bowles, Samuel y Gintis, Herbert (2000). "¿Ha pasado de moda la igualdad? El *Homo reciprocans* y el futuro de las políticas igualitaristas", en Roberto Gargarella y Félix Ovejero (eds.), *Razones para el socialismo*. Barcelona, Paidós, 2001.
- León, Francisco José (2012). "Reciprocity and public support for the redistributive role of the State", *Journal of European Social Policy*, 22(2): 198-215.

Part 2. Family policies and welfare regimes

Professor Lluís Flaquer

Session 5. Changes in family structure and the growth of family diversity.

Variations of sociodemographic trends in Europe: Family formation. Household composition. Evolution of separation and divorce. Female participation in the labor market and gender balance.

Theoretical paradigms explaining family transformations: Postmaterialism. Individualization. The second demographic transition.

Cultural models of family in Europe. Relationship between family models and welfare regimes.

Readings:

- McLanahan, S. (2004). 'Diverging Destinies: How Children Are Faring Under the Second Demographic Transition'. *Demography* 41 (4): 607-627.
- Flaquer, L. (2012). 'Liberalización sin protección: Un balance de los resultados de la aplicación de la Ley de divorcio de 2005.' En T. Picontó Novales (ed.) *La custodia compartida a debate*. Madrid: Dykinson. pp. 23-44.

Session 6. What are family policies and what are they for?

Justification of intervention through family policies. Concept, scope and purposes of family policies.

Foundations of family policies.

Classic family policies: Economic support for families and child protection. Early childhood care and education services.

New family policies: Parental licenses and family time policies. Policies to improve the relational welfare of children. Policies to improve parental involvement in childcare.

Readings:

- Escobedo, A., L. Flaquer and L. Navarro (2012). 'The social politics of fatherhood in Spain and France: A comparative analysis of parental leave and shared residence.' *Ethnologie Française* 42 (1): 117-126.
- Wilson, K. R. and M. R. Prior (2011). 'Father involvement and child well-being.' *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health* 47: 405-407.

Session 7. Evaluation of the impact of family policies: some illustrations.

Regular and systematic evaluation through systems of indicators: the needs of families with dependent children. Social expenditure and use of family policy measures. The impact on families.

Criteria for evaluating family policies: Gender balance. Child welfare. Correspondence between citizens' preferences and family practices.

Readings:

- Bradshaw, J., P. Hoelscher and D. Richardson (2007). 'An Index of Child Well-being in the European Union'. *Social Indicators Research* 80: 133-177.
- O'Brien, M. (2009). 'Fathers, Parental Leave Policies and Infant Quality of Life: International Perspectives and Policy Impact.' *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*.

Session 8. Family policies and redistribution at the early stages of the life cycle.

The relationship between child poverty and family structure: Patterns of homogamy and inequality.

Single-parent families, large families, and complex households.

Social investment in childhood.

The rights of the underaged.

Family policies and equality of opportunities.

From welfare to well-being.

Readings:

- McLanahan S. and Percheski C. (2008). 'Family Structure and the Reproduction of Inequalities'. *Annual Review of Sociology* 34: 257-276.
- Flaquer, L. (2013). 'Family-related factors influencing child well-being.' In Asher Ben-Arieh, Ferran Casas Ivar Frønes, and Jill E. Korbin (eds.) *Handbook of Child Well-being*. Dordrecht: Springer. Vol 4. pp. 2,229-2,255.

## Methodology

The module will be structured along several types of teaching methodologies:

1. Lectures in the first part of the sessions.
2. Seminars on the analysis of readings and case studies in the second part of the sessions.
3. Follow-up tuitions.
4. Possibility of presentations by students (to be agreed with the professors).

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Activities in the classroom	32	1.28	1, 5, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8
Other training activities	68	2.72	1, 5, 3, 4

## Assessment

The evaluation of the module will be based on the following two aspects:

1) Attendance to the sessions (which is compulsory) and active participation in class, especially with regard to the discussion on compulsory readings (20% of the final grade).

2) An essay of 5000 words (80% of the final grade). This essay must conform to the following guidelines:

1. In general, it will have to follow the structure of an academic paper.
2. The topic must have been previously agreed with one of the professors of the module, who will assess the essay.
3. The topic should be related to the module's contents and / or compulsory readings.
4. The essay may consist, if applicable, on the theoretical part of the master's final thesis.
5. The essay's main thesis should be supported with arguments and relevant evidence: "opinion" or impressionistic essays will not be accepted.
6. Formal incorrectness in the presentation of the work (writing, spelling, bibliographic citations, etc.) may be a reason for fail.

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Attendance to sessions and active participation in class	20%	10	0.4	1, 5, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8
Essay	80%	40	1.6	1, 5, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8

## Bibliography

Apart from the compulsory readings referenced in the contents section, students may use the following supplementary materials:

Part 1. Income guarantee policies and distributive justice

Arnsperger, Christian y Van Parijs, Philippe (2000). *Ética económica y social. Teorías de la sociedad justa*. Barcelona, Paidós, 2002.

Barry, Brian (1989). *Teorías de la justicia*. Barcelona, Gedisa, 1995.

Barry, Brian. (1990). "The Welfare State versus the Relief of Poverty", *Ethics*, vol. 100, nº 3 (abril).

Brighouse, Harry (2004). *Justice*. Cambridge, Polity Press.

Clayton, Matthew y Williams, Andrew (eds.) (2000). *The Ideal of Equality*. Londres, MacMillan.

Domènech, Antoni (1996). "Ética y economía de bienestar: una panorámica", en Osvaldo Guariglia (ed.), *Cuestiones morales*. Madrid, Trotta.

Domènech, Antoni (1998). "Ocho desiderata metodológicos de las teorías sociales normativas", *Isegoría*, nº 18, pp. 115-141.

Elster, Jon (1992). *Local Justice*. New York, Russell Sage Foundation.

Fitzpatrick, Tony (2001). *Welfare Theory* (New York, Palgrave).

Gargarella, Roberto (1999). *Las teorías de la justicia después de Rawls*. Barcelona, Paidós.

Gargarella, Roberto y Ovejero, Félix (comps.) (2001). *Razones para el socialismo* (Barcelona, Paidós).

Goodin, Robert E. (1988). *Reasons for Welfare: The Political Theory of the Welfare State* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press).

Goodin, Robert E. (comp.) (1996). *Teoría del diseño institucional*. Barcelona, Gedisa, 2003.

Goodin, Robert E. (comp.) (2003). *Teoría del diseño institucional*. Barcelona, Gedisa.

Goodin, Robert E. y Le Grand, Julian (1987). "Not Only the Poor", Cap. 10 de *Not Only the Poor. The Middle Classes and the Welfare State* (Londres, Allen & Unwin).

Goodin, Robert E. y Le Grand, Julian (1987). *Not Only the Poor. The Middle Classes and the Welfare State* (Londres, Allen & Unwin).

- Kukathas, Chandran y Pettit, Philip (2004). *La teoría de la justicia de John Rawls y sus críticos*. Madrid, Tecnos.
- Le Grand, Julian (1997). "¿Caballeros, pícaros o subordinados? Acerca del comportamiento humano y la política social", *Desarrollo Económico*, vol. 38, nº 151 (octubre-diciembre 1998).
- LeGrand, Julian (2003). *Motivation, agency, and public policy: of knights and knaves, pawns and queens*. Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- LeGrand, Julian (2003). *Motivation, agency, and public policy: of knights and knaves, pawns and queens*. Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- Merkel, Wolfgang (2002). "Social justice and the three worlds of welfare capitalism", *Archives européennes de sociologie*, vol. XLIII, nº 1, pp. 59-91.
- Puyol, Ángel (2001). *El discurso de la igualdad*. Barcelona, Crítica.
- Rawls, John (1971). *Teoría de la justicia*. Madrid, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1995.
- Swift, Adam (2006). *Political Philosophy. A Beginners' Guide for Students and Politicians*. Cambridge, Polity Press.
- Titmuss, Richard (1987). *The Philosophy of Welfare* (London, Allen & Unwin).
- Van Parijs, Philippe (1991). *¿Qué es una sociedad justa?* Barcelona, Ariel, 1993.

## Part 2. Family policies and welfare regimes.

- Amato P. R. (2000). 'The Consequences of Divorce for Adults and Children'. *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 62; 1269-87.
- Amato, P. R. and J. G. Gilbreth (1999). 'Nonresident Fathers and Children's Well-Being: A Meta-Analysis'. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 61 (3): 557-573.
- Bauserman, R. (2002). 'Child adjustment in joint-custody versus sole-custody arrangements: A meta-analytic review'. *Journal of Family Psychology* 16: 91-102.
- Ben-Arieh, A. and I. Frønes (2007). 'Indicators of Children's Well-being: What Should be Measured and Why?' *Social Indicators Research* 84: 249-250.
- Emery, R. E., R. K. Otto and W. T. O'Donohue (2005). 'A Critical Assessment of Child Custody Evaluation: Limited Science and a Flawed System'. *Psychological Science in the Public Interest* 6 (1): 1-29.
- Escobedo, A., L. Flaquer and L. Navarro (2012). 'The social politics of fatherhood in Spain and France: A comparative analysis of parental leave and shared residence.' *Ethnologie Française* 42 (1): 117-126.
- Esping-Andersen, G. (2002). 'A Child-Centred Social Investment Strategy'. In G. Esping-Andersen et al. *Why We Need a New Welfare State*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 26-67.
- Flaquer, L. (2009). 'Coming in from the Cold: Single Parenthood as an Issue of Social Policy in Spain'. In Ursula von der Leyen and Vladimir Spidla (eds.). *Voneinander lernen - miteinander handeln: Aufgaben und Perspektiven der Europäischen Allianz für Familien*. Baden-Baden: Nomos. pp. 203-214.
- Flaquer, L. and A. Garriga (2009). 'Marital disruption in Spain: Class selectivity and deterioration of economic conditions'. In H.-J. Andreß and D. Hummelsheim (eds). *When Marriage Ends: Economic and Social Consequences of Partnership Dissolution*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar. pp. 178-210.
- Lamb, M. E. (2000). 'The history of research on father involvement'. *Marriage & Family Review* 29 (2): 23-42.
- Lewis J. (2006). 'Introduction: Children in the Context of Changing Families and Welfare States'. A. J. Lewis (ed). *Children, Changing Families and Welfare States*. Cheltenham: Elgar. pp. 1-24.
- Moreno Mínguez, A. (2010). 'Gender Roles in Spain from a Comparative Perspective'. *European Societies* 12 (1): 1-27.
- Pfau-Effinger B, (2004). 'Historical Paths of the Male Breadwinner Family Model - Explanation For Cross-national Differences'. *British Journal of Sociology* 55 (3) 377-399.
- Pfau-Effinger, B. (2005). 'Welfare state policies and the development of care arrangements'. *European Societies* 7 (2): 321-347.
- Pfau-Effinger, B., L. Flaquer and P. Jensen (eds) (2009). *Formal and Informal Work: The Hidden Work Regime in Europe*. London: Routledge.
- Wall, K. and A. Escobedo (2009). 'Portugal and Spain: Two Pathways in Southern Europe'. A. S. Kamerman and P. Moss (eds.) *The Politics of Parental Leave Policies: Children, Parenting, Gender and the Labour Market*. Bristol: The Policy Press.