



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

TRIMESTERS 1 and 2, 2008

**POLS 432 and PUBL 406: SOME ASPECTS OF POLICY-MAKING
Politics and Policies in Scandinavia**

CRN 1374

LECTURER:

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LECTURE / SEMINAR TIMES:

Mondays, 1:10-3:00 pm.

VENUE:

MY 103 (which is on the ground floor of the Murphy building).

FIRST TRIMESTER OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays 9:00-9:50 am; Thursdays 9:00-9:50 am. You are also welcome to telephone or email me.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Whenever it's necessary to do so, additional information about POLS 432 / PUBL 406 will be posted as announcements on the POLS 432 / PUBL 406 2008 Blackboard website. As soon as they have been finalised, relevant details from the end-of-year exam timetable will also be placed on this site. *It is, of course, essential that all students consult Blackboard regularly, preferably at least once a day.*

COURSE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

The course will begin with a brief look at the structure of Scandinavian societies, and will proceed to an examination of the basis of the government and politics of Scandinavia. Close attention will then be paid to policy formation and policy outcomes in Scandinavia. The distinction between ministries and departments and the devolution of power will be examined carefully, as will the domestic and international consequences of Scandinavian policy preferences. By the end of the course, students should have a thorough understanding

* of the main features of the government and politics of Denmark, Norway and Sweden in particular, as well as of the government and politics of Finland and Iceland;

* of how policies are formulated and shaped in Scandinavia; and

* of major differences between and similarities with the government and politics of New Zealand.

COURSE CONTENT:

A week-by-week outline of the structure of the course follows, starting on page 4.

COURSE READINGS:

- **Essential text**

The POLS 432 / PUBL 406 textbook is David Arter, *Democracy in Scandinavia: Consensual, Majoritarian or Mixed?* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2006).

It is expected that all students will purchase POLS 432 / PUBL 406 textbook. It can be purchased from Vicbooks located on the top floor of the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. Books of Reading are distributed from the Student Notes Shop on the ground floor of the Student Union Building. Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop the day after placing an order online. Opening hours are 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday to Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays), and 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on Saturday. Phone: 463- 5515.

- **Recommended readings**

If you can pick up cheap second-hand copies, then three other books worth getting are:

David Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1999).

Jonathan Boston, *Governing Under Proportional Representation: Lessons from Europe* (Wellington: Institute of Policy Studies, VUW, 1998);

Eric S. Einhorn and John Logue, *Modern Welfare States: Scandinavian Politics and Policy in the Global Age* (Westport, Connecticut, and London: Praeger, 2nd edition, 2003).

An extremely useful introduction to the field of public policy is Arnold J. Heidenheimer, Hugh Hecllo, and Carolyn Teich Adams, *Comparative Public Policy: The Politics of Social Choice in America, Europe, and Japan* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 3rd edition, 1989).

EXPECTED WORKLOAD: In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 12 hours per week to POLS 432 / PUBL 406. This includes two hours of lectures / seminars per week.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS: The course will be assessed on the following basis:

- A review essay of about 1,500 words will contribute 10% to the overall grade awarded to students.
- Two main essays, each of about 5,000 words, will count for 50% of the overall grade awarded to students. (The better of the two essays will be worth 30%, while the other will be worth 20%.)
- A 3-hour long end-of-year Registry-conducted examination will contribute 40% to students' overall grades. The POLS 432 / PUBL 406 exam is not an open-book exam. The exam will be held sometime during the period 13 October to 9 November 2008.

The purpose of the review essay is to give students an early, broad perspective about Scandinavian politics and society; the two longer essays are to ensure that students develop an accurate and detailed understanding of particular aspects of the politics and policies of the Scandinavian states; and the aim of the end-of-year examination is to assess the ability of students to integrate and use the knowledge they acquire during the course when tackling specific questions or statements.

Full details of the topics for the essays, and the dates on which they are due, are given on pages 9 and 10, after the course outline and reading list.

Your written assignments must be submitted by their due dates. Extensions will be granted only to those who meet the University's *aegrotat* rules (e.g., students with a medical certificate, a family bereavement, or critical personal circumstances beyond their control). Late essays must be handed directly either to Professor Roberts or to a Political Science and International Relations Administration Assistant who will record on the essays the date and time they were received.

There is a uniform deadline for the final submission of all written in-term work (including research papers) for Honours courses. Students are advised that this deadline will be firmly adhered to; extensions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, under the conditions stipulated in Victoria University's aegrotat regulations. Extensions must be approved by the Honours Coordinator (Professor Stephen Levine) in advance of the deadline. In 2008 the deadline will be 5:00 pm on **Monday, 6 October**. Work not submitted by this deadline will not be taken into consideration when determining final results.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS: In order to pass POLS 432 / PUBL 406, students must (i) attend at least three-quarters of the POLS 432 / PUBL 406 lecture / seminars, (ii) complete and submit all requisite written work, (iii) sit and complete the end-of-year examination, (iv) obtain an overall average of at least 50 per cent, and (v) have no more than one grade lower than a C.

A student who has obtained an overall mark of 50% or more, but failed to satisfy all of the mandatory requirements for the course, will receive a K grade for the course, while a course mark of less than 50% will result in the appropriate fail grade (D, E or F).

PENALTIES: Students will be penalised for late submission of essays – a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM: Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were ones own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct. All cases will be recorded on a central database and severe penalties may be imposed. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- An oral or written warning.
- Cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course.
- Suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website: <www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS:

All Political Science and International Relations Programme assignments must be handed in together with a signed Assignment Cover Sheet. Students are required to submit *both* (a) **two hard copies** *and* (b) **an electronic copy** of all their POLS 432 / PUBL 406 assignments.

THE USE OF TURNITIN: Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <<http://www.turnitin.com>>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. At the discretion of the head of School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the course coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a

copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

AEGROTATS: Please note that under the Assessment Statute (Sections 4.5) students may now apply for an aegrotat pass in respect of any item of assessment falling within the last three weeks before the day on which lectures cease. In the case of full-year courses in 2008, the starting point for this period is Monday, 22 September 2008.

The following rules apply:

- Where a student is not able to sit a test falling within these last three weeks because of illness or injury etc., an alternative test will be arranged where possible. If the student has completed in the view of the course supervisor, sufficient marked assessment relevant to the objectives of the course, an average mark may be offered. Where a student has an essay or other piece of assessment due in the last three weeks, and has a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation, the student will be given an extension;
- If none of the above none of the above is available to the student, e.g., if she/he has an ongoing illness, than an aegrotat will be considered. See Assessment Statute (Sections 4.5) for a full explanation of the rules governing the provision of aegrotats in these circumstances.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES: Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html>.

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at: <<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>>.

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING LIST: SECTION ONE – Politics in Scandinavia

1. INTRODUCTION (3 and 10 March 2008)

The initial POLS 432 / PUBL 406 seminars aim to provide students with a broad, general overview of Scandinavia. Some early articles that contain the genesis of my research and teaching interests in Scandinavian government and politics are:

Nigel S. Roberts, "New Models for New Zealand: Three Small Democracies Compared", *New Zealand International Review*, vol. 2, no. 2, March-April 1977, pp. 14-17.

Nigel S. Roberts, "Eco-Politics in Scandinavia: Lessons for New Zealand", *Canterbury Environment Journal*, vol. 3, no. 9, October 1978, pp. 10-11.

Nigel S. Roberts, "New Zealand, Denmark and Norway: Foreign Policy and National Character", in John Henderson, Keith Jackson and Richard Kennaway, eds., *Beyond New Zealand: The Foreign Policy of a Small State* (Auckland: Methuen, 1980), pp. 28-36.

2. THE CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES IN SCANDINAVIA (17 March 2008)

- ◆ Arter, *Democracy in Scandinavia*, chapter 1.

Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today*, chapters 1 and 2.

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, chapter 4.

Olof Petersson, *The Government and Politics of the Nordic Countries* (Stockholm: Publica / Fritzes, 1994), chapters 1 and 2.

Leslie Wolf-Phillips, *Comparative Constitutions* (London: Macmillan, 1972).

The Constitutions of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

3. **ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND ELECTIONS IN SCANDINAVIA** (31 March and 7 April 2008)

♦ Arter, *Democracy in Scandinavia*, chapters 2 and 8.

Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today*, chapter 5.

Jonathan Boston, Stephen Levine, Elizabeth McLeay, and Nigel S. Roberts, *New Zealand Under MMP: A New Politics?* (Auckland: Auckland University Press, 1996), Appendix 2.

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, pp. 64-66, and Appendices A and B.

N.C.M. Elder, "The Scandinavian States", in S.E. Finer, ed., *Adversary Politics and Electoral Reform* (London: Anthony Wigram, 1975), pp. 185-202.

Petersson, pp. 53-70; 162-167; 168-171.

Bo Särilvik, "Scandinavia", in Vernon Bogdanor and David Butler, eds., *Democracy and Elections: Electoral Systems and their Political Consequences* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983), chapter 7.

4. **POLITICAL PARTIES IN SCANDINAVIA** (28 April 2008)

♦ Arter, *Democracy in Scandinavia*, chapters 3 and 4.

Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today*, chapters 3, 4, and 6.

Sten Berglund and Ulf Lindström, *The Scandinavian Party System(s): A Comparative Study* (Lund: Studentlitteratur, 1978).

Hans Bergström, "Sweden's Politics and Party System at the Crossroads", *West European Politics*, vol. 14, no. 3, July 1991, pp. 8-30.

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, chapter 5, and Appendices A and B.

Eric S. Einhorn and John Logue, "Continuity and Change in the Scandinavian Party Systems", in Steven B. Wolinetz, ed., *Parties and Party Systems in Liberal Democracies* (London: Routledge, 1988), pp. 159-202.

Elder, Thomas and Arter, chapters 2 and especially 3.

John Fitzmaurice, *Politics in Denmark* (London: Hurst, 1981), chapter 5.

Petersson, pp. 39-53; 71-76.

Diane Sainsbury, "Swedish Social Democracy in Transition: The Party's Record in the 1980s and the Challenge of the 1990s", *West European Politics*, vol. 14, no. 3, July 1991, pp. 31-57.

5. **LEGISLATURES IN SCANDINAVIA** (5 May 2008)

♦ Arter, *Democracy in Scandinavia*, chapters 5 and 9.

Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today*, chapter 9.

David Arter, *The Nordic Parliaments: A Comparative Analysis* (London: Hurst and Co., 1984).

Erik Damgaard, "The Strong Parliaments of Scandinavia: Continuity and Change in Scandinavian Parliaments", in Gary Copeland and Samuel Patterson, eds., *Parliaments in the Modern World: Changing Institutions* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1994), pp. 85-103.

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, pp. 66-72

Peter Esaiasson and Knut Heidar, eds., *Beyond Westminster and Congress: The Nordic Experience* (Columbus, Ohio: Ohio State University Press, 2000).

Fitzmaurice, chapter 3.

Stig Hadenius, *The Riksdag in Focus: Swedish History in a Parliamentary Perspective* (Stockholm: The Swedish Riksdag, 1997).

Petersson, chapter 4.

6. POLITICAL RECRUITMENT IN SCANDINAVIA (12 May 2008)

Erik Allardt, et al., eds., *Nordic Democracy* (Copenhagen: Det Danske Selskab, 1981), chapter 5.

Peter Esaiasson and Knut Heidar, eds., chapters 3 to 7.

Elina Haavio-Mannila, et al., *Unfinished Democracy: Women in Nordic Politics* (Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1985).

Beryl Nicholson, "From Interest Group to (Almost) Equal Citizenship: Women's Representation in the Norwegian Parliament", *Parliamentary Affairs*, vol. 46, no. 2, 1993, pp. 255-263.

Hans Peter Hilden, ed., *Folketinget efter valget Den 11. marts 1998* (Copenhagen: Folketingets Præsidium – Informations- og Dokumentationsafdelingen, 1998). *

Trond Nordby, ed., *Storting og regjering 1945-1985: Biografier* (Oslo: Kunnskapsforlaget, 1985). *

Trond Nordby, ed., *Storting og regjering 1945-1985: Institusjoner - rekruttering* (Oslo: Kunnskapsforlaget, 1985). *

---, *Stortinget i navn og tall 2005-2009* (Oslo: Universitetsforlaget, 2006). *

---, *Fakta om Folkvalda: Riksdagen 1998-2002* (Stockholm: Sveriges Riksdag, 1999). *

(*: These books contain basic data about political recruitment.)

7. EXECUTIVES IN SCANDINAVIA (19 and 26 May 2008)

♦ Arter, *Democracy in Scandinavia*, chapters 5, 7, 11, and 12.

Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today*, chapter 10.

Boston, especially chapters 2 to 5.

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, pp. 72-77 and Appendix C.

Peter Esaiasson and Knut Heidar, eds., chapter 11.

Kenneth Miller, *Friends and Rivals: Coalition Politics in Denmark, 1901-1995* (Lanham: University Press of America, c. 1996).

Petersson, chapter 5.

Olof Ruin, "Three Swedish Prime Ministers: Tage Erlander, Olof Palme and Ingvar Carlsson", *West European Politics*, vol. 14, no. 3, July 1991, pp. 58-82.

SECTION TWO – Policies in Scandinavia

8. POLICY-MAKING IN SCANDINAVIA (7 July 2008)

- ◆ Arter, *Democracy in Scandinavia*, chapters 6, 9, and 10.

Allardt, *et al.*, section II (i.e., chapters 7-11).

Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today*, chapter 7.

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, chapters 2 and 3.

Elder, Thomas and Arter, pp. 138-43; and chapter 5.

Petersson, chapter 6.

Rune Premfors, "The 'Swedish Model' and Public Sector Reform", *West European Politics*, vol. 14, no. 3, July 1991, pp. 83-95.

Pierre Vinde and Gunnar Petri, *Swedish Government Administration* (Stockholm: The Swedish Institute, 2nd rev. ed., 1978).

9. ECONOMIC POLICIES IN SCANDINAVIA (14 July 2008)

Allardt, *et al.*, chapters 12 and 16.

Marquis W. Childs, *Sweden: The Middle Way* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1936).

Marquis W. Childs, *Sweden: The Middle Way on Trial* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1980).

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, chapter 9.

Assar Lindbeck, *et al.*, *Turning Sweden Around* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1994).

Michele Micheletti, "Swedish Corporatism at a Crossroads: The Impact of New Politics and New Social Movements", *West European Politics*, vol. 14, no. 3, July 1991, pp. 144-165.

Henry Milner, *Sweden: Social Democracy in Practice* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989).

Petersson, chapter 10.

The latest OECD Economic Surveys for Denmark, Norway, and Sweden.

Scandinavian Political Studies, vol. 12, no. 4 (new series), December 1989 – devoted to "The Politics of Economic Flexibility."

10. LABOUR RELATIONS POLICIES IN SCANDINAVIA (21 July 2008)

- ◆ Arter, *Democracy in Scandinavia*, chapter 6.

Allardt, *et al.*, chapters 13-15.

Niklas Bruun, *The Nordic Labour Relations Model: Labour Law and Trade Unions in the Nordic Countries Today and Tomorrow* (Aldershot, Hants.: Dartmouth, 1992).

Karl H. Cerny, ed., *Scandinavia at the Polls: Recent Political Trends in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden* (Washington, DC: American Enterprise Institute, 1977), part 3.

Andrew Cox and Noel O'Sullivan, eds., *The Corporate State: Corporatism and the State Tradition in Western Europe* (Aldershot, Hants.: Edward Elgar Publishing, 1988).

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, chapter 10.

Petersson, chapter 7.

Peter Swenson, *Fair Shares: Unions, Pay, and Politics in Sweden and West Germany* (London: Adamantine Press, 1989), chapter 5.

See also articles in the *Social and Labour Bulletin*.

11. SOCIAL WELFARE POLICIES IN SCANDINAVIA (28 July 2008)

Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today*, chapter 8.

Cerny, ed., chapter 5.

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, chapters 6, 8, 11, and 12.

Gosta Esping-Andersen, *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1990).

Fitzmaurice, chapter 6; or Miller, chapter 9.

Gunnar Heckscher, *The Welfare State and Beyond: Success and Problems in Scandinavia* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1984).

John Logue, *Socialism and Abundance: Radical Socialism in the Welfare State* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1982), chapter 1.

12. EDUCATION POLICIES IN SCANDINAVIA (4 August 2008)

Allardt, *et al.*, chapters 18-22.

Stephen J. Ball and Stattan Larsson, eds., *The Struggle for Democratic Education: Equality and Participation in Sweden* (London: The Falmer Press, 1989).

Jens Bjerg, *et al.*, "Provincial Reflections on Danish Comprehensive Education", *Compare*, vol. 21, no. 2, 1991, pp. 133-142.

Kjell Eide, "The Future of European Education as Seen from the North", *Comparative Education*, vol. 28, no. 1, 1992, pp. 9-17.

See also articles in the *European Journal of Education*.

13. HEALTH POLICIES IN SCANDINAVIA (11 August 2008)

Odin Anderson, "Swedish Health Care in Perspective", *Health Policy*, vol. 21, no. 2, 1992, pp. 99-111.

Tom Christensen, "How to Succeed in Reorganizing: The Case of the Norwegian Health Administration", *Scandinavian Political Studies*, vol. 10, no. 1 (new series), March 1987, pp. 61-77.

Ulf-G. Gerdtham and Bengt Jönsson, "Health Care Expenditure in the Nordic Countries", *Health Policy*, vol. 26, no. 3, 1994, pp. 207-220.

14. POLICIES FOR MINORITIES IN SCANDINAVIA (1 September 2008)

Drude Dahlerup, "From a Small to a Large Minority: Women in Scandinavian Politics", *Scandinavian Political Studies*, vol. 11, no. 4 (new series), 1988, pp. 275-298.

Harald Eidheim, *Aspects of the Lappish Minority Situation* (Oslo: Universitetsforlaget, rev. ed., 1974).

Jørgen Elklit, Johan Peter Noack, and Ole Tonsgaard, "Germans and Danes in North Schleswig", in Elklit, Noack, and Tonsgaard, *Nationalt tilhørsforhold i Nordslesvig* (Aarhus: Acta Jutlandica XLIV Samfundsvideenskabelig serie 14, 1978), pp. 249-275.

Tomas Hammar, "Cradle of Freedom on Earth': Refugee Immigration and Ethnic Pluralism", *West European Politics*, vol. 14, no. 3, July 1991, pp. 182-197.

L. Karvonen and P. Selle, *Women in Nordic Countries: Closing the Gap* (Aldershot, Hants.: Dartmouth, 1995).
Petersson, pp. 179-190.

15. FOREIGN POLICIES IN SCANDINAVIA (8 and 15 September 2008)

Allardt, *et al.*, chapters 28-31.

Arter, *Scandinavian Politics Today*, chapters 11 to 14.

Thomas P. Boje and Sven E. Olsson Hort, eds., *Scandinavia in a New Europe* (Oslo: Scandinavian University Press, 1993).

Michael T. Corgan, *Iceland and Its Allies: Security for a Small State* (Lewiston, N.Y.: The Edwin Mellen Press, 2002).

Eric Einhorn, *National Security and Domestic Politics in Post-War Denmark* (Odense: Odense University Press, 1975).

Einhorn and Logue, *Modern Welfare States*, chapters 7 and Appendix D.

Elder, Thomas and Arter, chapter 6.

Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, "On the Dividing Line: A Nordic Approach to Security", *New Zealand International Review*, vol. 11, no. 1, January-February 1986, pp. 7-9.

Fitzmaurice, chapter 7.

Kjell Goldmann, "The Swedish Model of Security Policy", *West European Politics*, vol. 14, no. 3, July 1991, pp. 122-143.

Petersson, chapter 11.

Chris Prebensen, *Norway and NATO* (Oslo: Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 1974).

John F. L. Ross, "Sweden, the European Community, and the Politics of Economic Realism", *Cooperation and Conflict*, v. 26, no. 3, Oct. 1991, pp. 117-128.

Mondays 22 September 2008 to 6 October 2008 will be held in reserve for overflow seminars and extra sessions, but students' seminars will NOT be held earlier than the dates listed alongside the topics in this course outline.

ESSAYS AND EXAMINATIONS

As outlined on page 2, you will be required to write three essays during the course of the year, namely:

- Essay A will be a book review of about 1,500 words, and it will contribute 10% to the overall grade awarded to students; and
- Essays B and C will each be of about 5,000 words, and together they will count for 50% of the overall grade awarded to students. (The better of the two essays will be worth 30%, while the other will be worth 20%.)

Essay A must be handed in by no later than Monday, 19 May 2008. It will be an academic review (of about 1,500 words) of one of the following introductory texts about Scandinavian politics and society:

- Francis G. Castles, *The Social Democratic Image of Society* (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1978);
- Tony Griffiths, *Scandinavia* (Adelaide: Wakefield Press, 1990);
- Kenneth Miller, *Denmark: A Troubled Welfare State* (Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1991);
- William Shirer, *The Challenge of Scandinavia: Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland In Our Time* (Boston: Little Brown, 1955 & Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1977);

- James A. Storing, *Norwegian Democracy* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1963).

Each student is required to lead a seminar covering one of the topics in the course outline and reading list contained on pages 4 to 9 of this handout. **Essay B** follows on from your seminar presentation, and is thus based on one of the seminar topics either in Section One or Section Two of the course outline and reading list.

There are **two different deadlines for handing in Essay B**. They are as follows:

- Essays stemming from seminars led during the first trimester (that is, up to and including Monday, 26 May 2008) must be handed in by no later than **Monday, 7 July 2008**.
- Essays stemming from seminars led during the second trimester (that is, up to and including Monday, 6 October 2008) must be handed in by no later than **Monday, 6 October 2008**.

Essay C will consist of a topic of your own choosing connected with any aspect of the course. *Topics for the essay must be cleared with me by no later than Monday, 5 May 2008*, and as was the case for essay B, there are also **two different deadlines for handing in Essay C**. They are as follows:

- If you are *not* leading a seminar during the first trimester, then Essay C must be handed in by no later than **Monday, 7 July 2008**.
- If you are leading a seminar during the first trimester (and – as a result – handing in Essay B on or before 7 July 2008), then Essay C must be handed in to me by no later than **Monday, 6 October 2008**.

Please note that **students are required to hand in two copies of their essays**. This is to facilitate counter-marking by the University's external examiners. The essays and exam scripts of selected students (for example, contenders for First Class Honours, and students on the border between an Upper-Second and a Lower-Second Class degree) are subject to external assessment. In order to give you feedback about your work and the progress you are making, one copy of each of your essays will be returned to you; the other copy will be kept on file and will thus be available at short-notice for external scrutiny.

As explained on page 2, the end-of-year examination for POLS 432 / PUBL 406 counts for 40 per cent of the total marks for the course. It is a three-hour examination, and will be very fair: it will contain a wide selection of questions covering every major topic studied during the year. Students will be required to answer 3 questions (from the roughly 15 or 16 that will be asked) – including at least one from each of the two Sections of the course. You may answer questions in the exam that relate to topics you have covered in your essays, but – if you do – it is essential to remember that the reason for sitting an exam is *not* to regurgitate everything you know about a topic. It is, rather, an opportunity to test your ability to think clearly and creatively about specific problems (whether or not those problems have been posed in the form of questions or statements).

Nigel S. Roberts
25 February 2008