

Introduction: The Swedish Model

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About Me

- Born in Chicago
- BA in political science and economics
- Studied in Sweden 1 ½ years
- Wrote BA in Econ on Swedish cooperatives
- Wrote BA in PS on Swedish foreign policy during WWII
- Later studied in former West Berlin (economics and business)
- PhD at department of political science in Uppsala on the fall of communism in CE
- Have lived in Sweden "permanantly" since 1989

Main Research

- Collapse of Communism and transition to democracy
- Social policy and welfare attitudes
- Family policy and gender attitudes
- Social movements
- Music/culture and national identity

When we think of Sweden....

The background of the slide is a blue gradient. On the left side, there is a bright, glowing area that resembles a sun or a light source, with a vertical reflection of light extending downwards. The rest of the background is a deep, uniform blue with some subtle, wispy cloud-like patterns near the top.



Small Country, Great Importance

- **Music:** ABBA, Ace of Base, Europe, Roxette (but actually there are also some *good* groups, but they are less known)
- **Industry:** Krupp, Swedish match, Volvo, Saab, Erixsson, Ikea, Vattenfall, Asea, Farmacia
- **Sports:** tennis, hockey, ping-pong, skiing
- But *most* famous for its model of social policy, social democratic dominance and neutral foreign policy
- Is one of the most studied countries in the world considering its size (only Israel is comparable)

Focus of this course

- Explaining how the social democrats were able to gain hegemony and support for its model of social policy
- Explaining what its social policies actually are and how they influence society

Division into groups for the seminars

- We will break you up into two seminar groups.
- We must wait until the deadline for dropping the course first.

Seminars

- Participation in the seminars is obligatory.
- *Anyone missing a seminar, must send in to their seminar leader a three-page written reflection on the reading that was required for that seminar. Write one page about each. For each reflection, write you OWN thoughts NOT a summary!!!!*
- At each seminar every student will hand in a list of FOUR questions based on one of the readings for that theme, which the students want us to discuss at the seminar.

Final Paper

- Short paper at the end of the course
- Reflect on one aspect of the Swedish model and discuss what are the advantages and disadvantages of the model
- Compare Swedish with one other country and discuss what that country could learn from the Swedish experience
- The paper should be about 4 pages (around 2000 words).
- **Can write in groups of 2.**
- Use an internationally acceptable form of notes and references
- Can choose which system to use

Remember in writing your papers:

- Scientific, peer-reviewed articles and books are best
- Official statistics from the governments or international organizations
- Reports from respectable newspapers and magazines (LN – not blesk, etc.)
- Not unreliable internet sources, such as wikipedia!!!!
- ***The use of unreliable sources such as wikipedia will lower your grade.***
- Remember to have a reference for ***every fact*** or ***thought*** that you get from somebody else!

Reading

- I wrote "appropriate chapters" in the syllabus because the books have not yet been copied by the IT personal, so I do not know exactly which chapters are for each seminar. (We gave them the books several weeks ago).
- Will send e-mail with this info as soon as I find out.
- But can use common sense in figuring out which chapters are "appropriate"
- Many of the best sources are only available in Swedish, so my lectures will not follow the literature so exactly. Also I will give information that is more up-dated than in most books.
- The article for family policy is one that I wrote in Czech. If there are some foreign students, who cannot read Czech, I will add some optional articles in English.

If you fail your paper

- I learned from the past course that students are capable of writing good papers if they want
- But often are lazy and fail several times first
- Do not believe we can actually fail them
- If fail, get one more chance to send in a new paper by January 15.
- Your grade will be lowered by one level if you fail the first time.
- Remember: less work means more work, because you can really fail!