INSTITUTIONS, MORALITY AND PUNISHMENT

ECTS: 10

Period: 12-23 August

Level: Bachelor

Capacity limits: Each module consists of a maximum of about 30 students. The students need to register for the module.

Language of teaching: English

Location: Aarhus University, Denmark

Primary programme: Bachelor's Degree Programme in the History of Ideas

Institute: Department of Culture and Society

Qualification description

A seminar on graduate education provides advanced and thorough treatment of a politologically relevant topic on the basis of an examination and discussion of the literature and issues within the seminar's field of research.

The goal of this seminar is to expand and clarify the students' knowledge and comprehension of the interaction between organisations, street-level bureaucrats and citizens in relation to regulation and punishment.

The student will gain knowledge about the concepts and theory, which:

- deal with the concept of regulation and punishment
- deal with the interplay between citizens, organisations and street-level bureaucrats
- deal with the strategies of the citizens
- deal with the behaviour of the street-level bureaucrats
- deal with the challenges in the relation between street-level bureaucrats, citizens and bureaucracy
The student will acquire skills in:

- understanding, summarising, and accounting for the subject's theories and methods
- undertaking theoretical investigations of empirical issues
- using the subject's theories and perspectives in analyses of issues connected to the interplay between citizens, street-level bureaucrats and organizations.

Course objective

In this course we will investigate the relationship between state policy and law implementation from respectively a social, political and philosophical perspective.

The course will focus on institutions, morality and punishment in the context of a modern welfare state. The course will touch on issues as regulation of citizens, the state as both law enforcement and service provider, and policy implementation - how it is experienced and practiced by respectively the frontline workers whose job is to implement the law and the people whose behavior the law seeks to regulate.

In the seminar we will study policy as a joint product of the interaction between citizen and street-level bureaucrat. The student will acquire a theoretical knowledge of the diverse roles and positions, which citizens and street-level bureaucrats can adopt in relation to each other, and the expectations citizens are met with in terms of regulation and punishment and their reaction to it.

Teacher

Mie Birk Haller & Didde Cramer Jensen

Recommended prerequisites

Bachelor level

Teaching Methods

Class teaching
Comments on teaching
The seminar module requires active participation of students. At the beginning of the seminar module the lecturer and the students agree on specific "activity requirements" that the students have to fulfill.

Assessment
The student's fulfilment of the seminar's goal will be evaluated on the basis of a free, written assignment (in English or Danish). This written assignment must be based on a topic of the student's own choosing within the theme of the seminar. The assignment must be between 8-10 pages, including appendices and notes, but excluding index and bibliography. Any assignments which exceed the stipulated length will be rejected. The assignment should be submitted digitally, deadline the 9th September. The assignment will be graded on a 7-point grading scale by an internal examiner.

Literature

1. Introduction (Didde & Mie)


2: Perspectives on punishment and prisons (Mie)
Further reading


Institutions

3: The organizational structure (Didde)


Further reading


Public Encounter

4: Street Level bureaucracy (Didde)


Lipsky, Michael (1980) ”Street-Level Bureaucracy. Dilemmas of the Individual in Public Services,” pp. 59-70 (pp.11) + pp. 87-99 (pp. 11) + pp.105-111 (pp.6 ) + pp.117-125 (pp.15). (pp. 43) (Compendium)

Further reading


5: Citizen’s strategies (Didde)


Further reading


Regulation

6: Power and Subjectivity (Mie)


Further reading


7: Regulatory enforcement and discrimination (Didde)


Further reading


8: Moral regulation (Mie)


Further reading


Methodology

9. Methods of social research

Introduction to Quantitative research (pp. 1-10) (pp. 10)
Download: http://www.sagepub.com/upm-data/36869_muijs.pdf

Further reading


10: End of Course: tying it all together ...

Syllabus

The module compendium consists of about 800 pages.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction</th>
<th>Punishment</th>
<th>Institutions</th>
<th>Public Encounter</th>
<th>Public Encounter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1: Introduction (Didde / Mie)</strong></td>
<td><strong>2: Perspectives on punishment and prisons (Mie)</strong></td>
<td><strong>3: The organizational structure (Didde)</strong></td>
<td><strong>4: Street Level bureaucracy (Didde)</strong></td>
<td><strong>5: Citizen’s strategies (Didde)</strong></td>
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<td>Regulation</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
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<td>7: Regulatory enforcement and discrimination (Didde)</td>
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