**Call for papers:**

**NordWel Summer School 2008**

**State, Society & Citizen –  
the Multilayered Historicity of the Welfare State**

**Helsinki, 21-26 August 2008**

NCoE NordWel in cooperation with the Danish Research School for History and Nordic Research School for Contemporary History are organizing a summer school in Helsinki, 21-26 August 2008.

The summer school is part of the activities of NCoE NordWel: <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/nord-wel>

We invite PhD students and young researchers from different backgrounds both within and outside the Nordic countries to participate in discussing the history of the welfare state, its preconditions and how we ought to study it.

**Old and new perspectives on the welfare state**

Welfare States has and can be studied from a number of theoretical and methodological approaches, with various chronological perspectives and with a focus on different empirical phenomena. As stated in the title “State, Society & Citizen – the Multilayered Historicity of the Welfare State” our aim is to stimulate cross-disciplinary and multi-perspective discussions on the welfare state as a historical phenomena and concept.

The welfare state is to be understood as a broad concept and papers at the summer school can include papers on welfare institutions; historical and social preconditions; ideas, visions and critiques; transnational and comparative perspectives as well as studies of agents and social movements.

The Summer School will – inspired by new trends with in welfare research – challenge our often very narrow national and contemporary understanding of the welfare state. Our aim is to bring together Ph.D.-students and young researchers and stimulate a discussion that will challenge and maybe bring us beyond well established concepts and understandings.

We invite proposals for papers that deal with welfare and welfare state in a broad historical perspective. Papers can be both theoretical and empirical in their approach. They can deal with national themes or have a comparative perspective. The list of possible themes seems almost infinite but papers could deal with topics such as:

* The historical development of social security and service systems including both the 20th Century as well as the long historical roots and preconditions for the contemporary welfare state
* The political history of the welfare state including political and ideological discussions on welfare, the role of political parties as well as the role of social movements.
* Visions of society including the role of ideology, the history of theories about society, social movements and alternative visions of the good society, discussions on gender equality, the welfare state as utopia or dystopia in politics or arts.
* Conceptual perspectives on the welfare state including the role of ideology and ideas, the use of theories and theoretical perspectives.
* Transnational perspectives including policy transfer, export of welfare systems, the relationship between the national and international, and the role of international organizations and ideas.
* The normative underpinnings of the welfare state model including value systems of the welfare state, gendering of welfare systems, the normative charges of work, the role of religion and contemporary challenges to the normative foundation.
* Institutional perspectives including the relationship between local and national (state and municipality), between the public and the private, policy studies and the role of expert and knowledge.

Teachers:  Christoph Conrad (University of Geneva, Switzerland), Hanne Marlene Dahl (Roskilde University Centre, Denmark), Adalbert Evers (Giessen University, Germany), Pauli Kettunen (University of Helsinki, Finland), Walter Korpi (Stockholm University, Sweden), Stein Kuhnle (Hertie School of Governance, Germany), Pirjo Markkola (Åbo Akademi University, Finland), Janet Newman (Open University, UK), Claus Offe (Hertie School of Governance, Germany), Ilona Ostner (Georg-August University in Göttingen, Germany), Klaus Petersen (University of Southern Denmark, Denmark) and Bo Stråth (University of Helsinki, Finland)

The summer school is designed for Nordic and international PhD students and postdoctoral researchers. The course is composed of a series of guest lectures and workshops. Guest lectures and senior scholars will act as discussant in the work shop as well as the PhD students.

The course program will be updated on the NordWel home page at <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/nord-wel/>.

Participants who complete the summer school successfully are credited with 10 ECTS credits.

**Course fee**

The Course fee is 100 Euros. Travel costs and accommodation will be financed by NCoE NordWel and the Danish Research School for History.

**How to apply**

PhD students and young researchers interested in participating in the summer school should send an abstract (½ page) and a short biography by email no later than 30 April 2008 to coordinator Heidi Haggrén: [heidi.haggren@helsinki.fi](mailto:heidi.haggren@helsinki.fi), + 358 9 191 24958.

**Contact**

For inquiries or comments, contact Coordinator Heidi Haggrén via e-mail: [heidi.haggren@helsinki.fi](mailto:heidi.haggren@helsinki.fi), or by phone: + 358 9 191 24958.

**Organizing committee**

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