**Seeing Like a State: Thinking Historically about Public Policy and Welfare**

**Research Seminar, History 890S-07, Spring 2016**

**Tuesday, 3:05-5:35**

**Professor James Chappel (jgc23)**

**Office Hours: Wednesday, 3-5**

Over the last several centuries, an institution known as the “state” has, across the globe, come to play increasingly large roles in the private lives of citizens. This course is designed to help us think broadly, and comparatively, about the rise of the state and its social policy apparatus: why are states so interested in the health and wellbeing of its citizens? Do welfare policies tend to disrupt, consolidate, or even establish cleavages of class, race, or gender? How can the history of the welfare state be understood from transnational and global perspectives? These are all enormous questions, and no single class could hope to answer them. This research seminar, however, will give you the tools to think about these questions and relate them to your own work.

Our course will marry readings in the field with plenty of time for your own research projects. Every week, we will read an article or two in common. Also, we will read an excerpt from a key work in the field, which will be read in full and reported on by one student (each student will be in charge of one week). I am flexible about the exact sort of research assignment that you create for this class, especially if you are not in the History Department. It will, though, have to meet a few requirements:

(a) you will produce a major, near-publishable piece of research.

(b) you will think historically about public policy, using primary sources from the past

(c) you will write an analytical, and not simply a narrative, document. The course will give you theoretical tools and I expect you to use them.

**Course Schedule**

Jan 19: Introduction: What is the welfare state?

Esping-Andersen, "The Three Political Economies of the Welfare State"; Pierson, *Beyond the Welfare State*, ch. 4; Myles and Quadagno, "Political Theories of the Welfare State"

Writing assignment for next time: By Sunday at 5 PM, upload to Sakai a document that has a working title, a paragraph in which you explain your research question, a list of primary sources that you might use, and a list of three scholarly journals that might accept such an article. For each of the scholarly journals, research and write down their requirements for authors: citation style, number of words, etc. For your top choice, read an article and write a paragraph about it: how is it structured? How many footnotes does it have? Does it explain its methodology/theory or leave it implicit? Does anything else leap out at you? You will model your paper on this example. Also, look at the book review section of your chosen journal. Read about 10 reviews and construct a typology of their reviewing style. About how long is the review? Does it focus more on theory/method or content? This will be the template you use to write your own book review.

Jan 26: What is the "social body" and why do states care about it?

Article: Omnia El Shakry, "Barren Land and Fecund Bodies: The Emergence of Population Discourse in Interwar Egypt" *International Journal of Middle East Studies* (2005)

Book: Mary Poovey, *Making a Social Body: British Cultural Formation, 1830-1864* (Chicago, 1995)

Activity: Presentations and group workshopping of first writing assignment for first half of class

Feb 2: Class: Is Welfare a Form of Social Control?

Article 1: Jesus de Felipe-Redondo, "Worker Resistance to 'Social' Reform and the Rise of Anarchism in Spain, 1880-1920," *Critical Historical Studies* (2014)

Article 2: Hermann Rebel, "Between Heimat and Schubsystem: Walking the Homeless to Death in Early Modern Austria," *Central European History* (2015)

Book: Frances Fox Piven, *Regulating the Poor: The Functions of Public Welfare,* updated edition (Vintage 1993)

Activity: Presentations and group workshopping of first writing assignment for second half of class

Writing assignment for next time: By Sunday at 5 PM, upload an annotated bibliography to Sakai. It should include 10-12 secondary sources, including both books and journal articles (ideally, and especially if your topic is not American, this source base will be multinational and/or multilingual). For each source, write a short paragraph about what this book argues and how it is relevant to your project. Conclude with a paragraph or two that summarizes the state of the field as you see it and the ways in which you hope to intervene.

Feb 9: Gender: How has the welfare state shaped gender relations and the family?

Article: Seth Koven and Sonya Michel, "Womanly Duties: Maternalist Politics and the Origins of Welfare States in France, Germany, Great Britain, and the United States, 1880-1920," *American Historical Review* (1990)

Book: Alice Kessler-Harris, *In Pursuit of Equity: Women, Men, and the Quest for Economic Citizenship in 20th-Century America* (Oxford 2001); OR Sanders, *Gender and Welfare in Mexico* (Penn State Press, 2011)

Activity: Presentations and group workshopping of annotated bibliographies for first half of class

Feb 16: Race: How has the welfare state perpetuated racial inequality?

Article: Alberto Spektorowski and Elisabet Mizrachi, "Eugenics and the Welfare State in Sweden: The Politics of Social Margins and the Idea of a Productive Society," *Journal of Contemporary History*(2004)

Book: Ira Katznelson, *When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth-Century America* (Norton 2005)

Activity: Presentations and group workshopping of annotated bibliographies for second half of class

Writing assignment for next time: By Sunday at 5 PM, upload an updated research proposal and a primary source analysis to Sakai. Summarize your topic and research question again, including a description of the sort of methodology you want to follow. Write a paragraph about the sorts of primary sources you want to use and how you will access them over the next few months: this should be as specific as possible. In addition, upload a primary source that you will be using for your project (if in a foreign language, please translate at least one paragraph). Alongside your source, write a primary source analysis of at least 2 pages in which you give the source a "close reading."

Feb 23: In-class primary source workshop

Writing assignment for next time: By Sunday at 5 PM, upload an outline of your research article. This should be as complete as possible, and at least 2 pages in length. We should all be able to look at this and understand exactly what you are arguing, and how you are making your case. In addition to an outline, include a first draft of the introduction to your article, which should be at least two pages long and include your thesis statement.

March 1: Class (2): Is the welfare state the replacement or the fulfillment of socialism?

Article: Mark B. Smith, "Faded Red Paradise: Welfare and the Soviet City after 1953," *Contemporary European History* (2015)

Book: David L. Hoffmann, *Cultivating the Masses: Modern State Practices and Soviet Socialism, 1914-1939* (Cornell, 2014)

Activity: Outline workshop

Writing assignment: By Sunday at 5 PM (after Spring Break), upload a first draft of your paper. This does not need to be complete, but it should be at least half of the full length you have set for yourself. It is OK for us to see this in a messy state.

March 8: NO CLASS TODAY. Work on your papers.

March 22: Empire: How Has the Welfare State Spread into the Post-Colony? Has it?

Article: Andreas Eckert, "Regulating the Social: Social Security, Social Welfare and the State in Late Colonial Tanzania," *Journal of African History* (2004)

Book: Joanna Lewis, *Empire State-Building: War & Welfare in Kenya, 1925-52* (Ohio University Press, 2005); OR Jennifer Johnson, *The Battle for Algeria: Sovereignty, Health Care, and Humanitarianism* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015)

Activity: rough draft workshops for first half of class

March 29: Globalization: How can we tell a global history of the welfare state? Is there one?

Article: Jill Jensen, "From Geneva to the Americas: The International Labor Organization and Inter-American Social Security Standards, 1936-1948," *International Labor and Working-Class History* (2011)

Book: Nara Dillon, *Radical Inequalities: China's Revolutionary Welfare State in Comparative Perspective* (Harvard University Press, 2015) OR Daniel Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age* (Harvard University Press, 1998)

Activity: rough draft workshops for second half of class

<possible class visit from Cornelius Torp>

April 5: The Politics of Austerity: What is Happening to the Welfare State? Is This New?

Article 1: Karin Rosemblatt, "Welfare States, Neoliberal Regimes, and International Political Economy: Gender Politics of Latin America in Global Context," *Journal of Women's History* (2013)

Article 2: Pierson, *Beyond the Welfare State,* ch. 5

Activity: Presentations 1-2

April 12: Presentations 3-5

April 19: Presentations 6-8

<papers due today in class>