

## **SOS2402- Family, gender and the welfare state**

### **Course content**

The aim of this course is to study the interplay between the family, work and the state from a gender and welfare state perspective. Some questions addressed are: What characterizes the social democratic welfare state approach to family, gender and work? Do work and family policies affect gender equality and fertility? How can care and intergenerational relationships be conceptualized and studied from a gender perspective in an International context? This course emphasizes a wide range of policies (e.g. parental and paternity leave, public childcare and working time regulations), theories and empirical studies (both quantitative and qualitative) to examine these questions. The intention is to be familiar with use of central theories and terms to understand and respond to sociological research questions.

This course is directed at both Norwegian and international students.

### **Knowledge**

- Obtain a theoretical based knowledge about family changes from a gender and welfare perspective
- Acquire knowledge of the significance of institutional contexts for changes in family and gender relations.

### **Skills**

- Make use of central sociological theories to discuss concrete political reforms, institutions and processes.
- Manage to give an oral or written presentation of central sociological themes.
- Manage to evaluate and give constructive comments to other students or researchers' work.
- Get knowledge of some fundamentals for presentations of scientific work
- Attend discussions and contribute to professional teamwork: by introducing own standpoint and joint work.

### **Competences**

- Be aware of limitations as well as strength of theories and research results
- Practice esteem regarding the division between knowledge based academic content or assumption.