



Comparative Sociology of Europe | SOU33061

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22
Pre-requisite	
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr. Nicole Kapelle
Contact Email	TBC

Module Outline:

The module examines how values, social relations and institutions have changed in European societies. Are there similar trends in all or at least most European societies? Have European societies converged, i.e., become more similar over time, or are there persisting divergences and cleavages? The module aims to identify the forces that drive changes in values, social relations and institutions in European societies and the structures that shape particular regional and country-specific responses. It deals with a variety of topics such as religion, gender relations and friendship patterns. While the module does compare a few countries at one point in time, it tends to look at many European countries (and occasionally countries beyond Europe) for longer periods to identify common patterns and the main differences between them.

Module Learning Outcomes

Students successfully completing the module will be able to:

- Outline the main sociological theories of value change, social cohesion, and institutions relevant to contemporary Europe;
- Describe and explain the development trajectories and main differences in values, social cohesion, and institutions between European societies;
- Critically discuss and empirically evaluate theories of societal modernisation in Europe and of convergence and divergence of European societies.



Assessment:

- 20% Student presentation
- 80% Essay of 2,500-words

Recommended Reading List:

There is no textbook for this module. Students will be expected to have read the lecture and seminar articles and book chapters. Many of the readings are provided on Blackboard but some articles, which are available on the TCD library website, are not uploaded onto Blackboard. Students are strongly urged to read the literature listed under 'further readings' as well. Obviously, the list of recommended readings is not comprehensive, and you are free, indeed encouraged, to read beyond the reading list.