

Instructions:

- 1) Read through the examples on your own and mark down a grade for each
  - Three excerpts from a hypothetical introductory paragraph:
    - Topic introduction; thesis; essay structure overview
  - Potential grades: A, B, C, and D
- 2) Turn to your partner and discuss why you assigned that grade
  - Update the grade if you think you made a mistake
- 3) Then we'll discuss your answers as a class

**The Question:** Will globalisation ultimately result in the convergence of Esping-Andersen's "worlds of welfare" and thereby erase institutional differences across welfare states?

Excerpts:

**Topic Introduction (i.e. first part of intro, before the thesis)**

- a) Webster's dictionary defines globalisation as "the act or process of globalizing: the state of being globalized; especially: the development of an increasingly integrated global economy marked especially by free trade, free flow of capital, and the tapping of cheaper foreign labor markets".
- b) Globalisation will ultimately result in the convergence of Esping-Andersen's "worlds of welfare".
- c) Neo-liberalism and the fiscal austerity that goes with it have led to the substantial restructuring of welfare states across the globe. There remains much debate, however, as to what these changes mean to the future of welfare state institutions.

**The Thesis (i.e. your main argument; your answer to the question)**

- a) Globalisation is a big issue that affects welfare state, capitalist, and citizenship regime institutions.
- b) While some people argue that globalisation will result in convergence, others deny this.
- c) I argue that globalisation will ultimately result in the convergence of Esping-Andersen's "worlds of welfare".
- d) This essay will analyse and compare the validity of globalisationist and institutionalist theories through an examination of welfare state retrenchment as it has occurred in the United Kingdom and Sweden. While both states have indeed seen retrenchment, it has taken different forms under different institutional arrangements.

**Essay Structure Overview (i.e. your plan for the rest of the answer)**

- a) I will make my argument by pointing to the impact of EU integration on everything from social policy to citizenship policies.
- b) I will prove this point by referencing the research of Palier and Martin, Ferrera, and Taylor-Gooby.
- c) In making this argument, the paper begins by tracing welfare state development within each case, and then examines the neoliberal restructuring which has occurred in social security and healthcare in recent decades. We then conclude with a brief analysis of the future prospects of welfare states.