

Title of course: **Family and Childhood in Latin America**

Lecturer: dr Cecilia Maria Zsögön

Teaching language: English

Course description:

Inequality in Latin America has historical roots and affects every aspect of life, including family patterns. Social disadvantage emerges in every category of family formation and impacts trends such as early union formation and childbearing, cohabitation, single motherhood, and union dissolution. Geohistorical legacies are also important in understanding family diversity in Latin America. At the individual level, ethnicity and religion frequently interact with themselves and with education, adding endless variations to the relationship between social status and family behavior.

We will analyze these trends and patterns, together with theoretical discussions such as whether parenting is cultural or nature based, the evolutionary developmental approach to parenting, the cultural approach to parenting, associated with the variation in values and norms relevant in a given society, and trends in contemporary parenting, mostly based on the change of the child's position in the society supported by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and its impact and in Latin America in terms of public policies, parental behaviors and attitude towards children, as well as practices that foster the child's well-being and optimal development.

This seminar will address key sociocultural and historical factors influencing family structures and parenting practices in Latin America. As it will be taught in English speakers, the content and language objectives are designed to ensure comprehension, critical thinking, and active engagement.