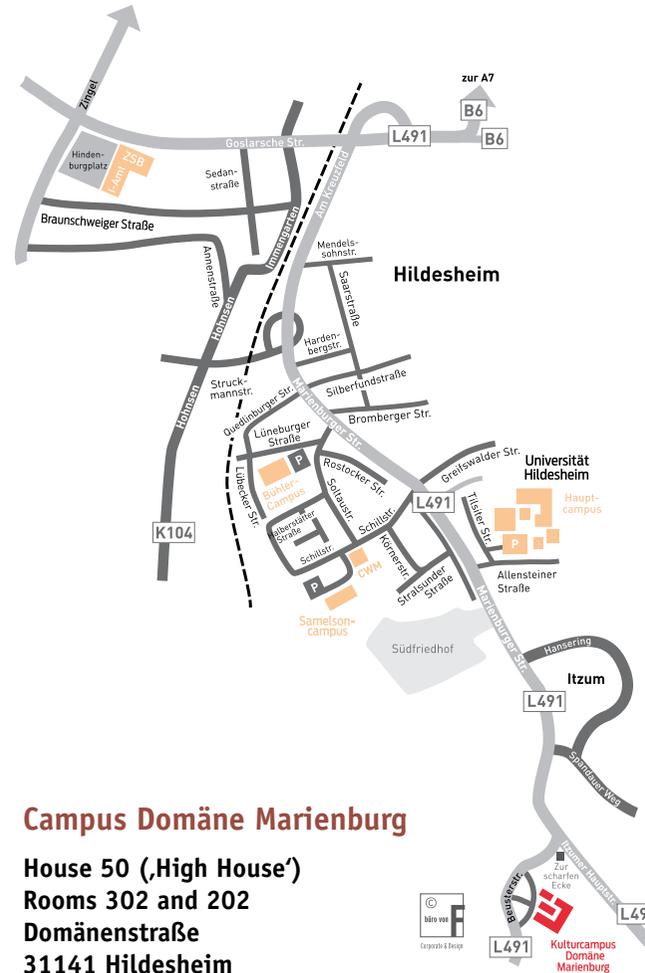


## Kindergarten and preschool developments in Europe and North America – a historical and comparative approach to institutional change

There are considerable international differences in the timing of the historical development of kindergartens and preschools as well as in the ways such systems of public child care for the three- to six-year-olds have been conceptualised and organised. Why is this so? The theme of this conference is an analysis of the spread of kindergartens and preschools in Western Europe and the USA from a historical-institutional and comparative perspective, with the purpose of discovering commonalities and differences in paths of development and of explaining why some countries came to be pioneers and others remained laggards in this field.

This conference is: first, interdisciplinary, bringing together sociologists, historians, pedagogists, experts in social policy, lawyers and economists; second, comparative, in that each contribution compares between developments in different countries or between developmental differences within the same country; and third, focused on the *longue durée*, taking account of developments since the nineteenth century.

Layout: Heller-Grafikdesign, Hintergrundbilder: artikularis - Fotolia



### Campus Domäne Marienburg

House 50 („High House“)  
Rooms 302 and 202  
Domänenstraße  
31141 Hildesheim

Conference fee: 70 Euro (including conference dinner)  
[www.uni-hildesheim.de/preschool-history-conference/](http://www.uni-hildesheim.de/preschool-history-conference/)

Registration: [Laus@uni-hildesheim.de](mailto:Laus@uni-hildesheim.de)  
Scientific directors: Prof. Kirsten Scheiwe and  
Prof. Harry Willekens

Research Conference  
10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013  
Hildesheim University



Kindergarten and preschool developments in Europe and North America – a historical and comparative approach to institutional change

Campus Domäne Marienburg



# Conference programme



## Thursday, 10 October 2013

- 13.00** Arrival and welcome  
13.30 *Kirsten Scheiwe* and *Harry Willekens*, Introduction to the purposes and main questions of the conference

### Part 1: Comparative country studies

- 14.00** *Harry Willekens*, Comparing the pioneers Belgium and France and a supposed laggard, the Netherlands  
**14.25** *Frank Simon*, Comment on Willekens  
**14.35** Discussion  
**15.00** Break  
**15.20** *Angelo Gaudio*, Preschool in Italy: a national tradition of institutional and ideological pluralism  
**15.45** *Carmen Sanchidrian Blanco*, Early childhood education, the State and the Church in Spain: a history of different goals, paths and models  
**16.10** *Eva Hohnerlein*, Comment on Gaudio and Sanchidrian Blanco  
**16.20** Discussion  
**17.05** Break  
**17.20-18.00** Discussion of the publication project

## Friday, 11 October 2013

### Part 1: Comparative country studies (continued)

- 9.00** *Susanne Wiborg*, Different paths of late development in the Scandinavian countries  
**9.25** *Arnlaug Leira*, The child care transition in Scandinavia – the changing focus of policy reform: children, families, care, education and employment  
**9.50** *Annette Borchorst*, Comment on Wiborg and Leira  
**10.00** Discussion  
**10.45** Break  
**11.00** *Larry Prochner*, Kindergarten and the New Education Movement in Canada and the United States: a cross-national perspective  
**11.25** *Adrienne Chambon*, Canadian early childhood education debates about citizenship education and social work and transnational influences from the US and the UK (1900-1935)  
**11.50** Discussion  
**12.30** Lunch

### Part 2: Movements and ideas and their influence upon the kindergarten institution over time

- 13.45** *Kristen Nawrotzki*, Two countries, one movement? Intermediaries, experts and change in early childhood education in England and the USA, 1850-1920  
**14.10** *Franz-Michael Konrad*, Theories of preschool education and their realisation: the examples of Friedrich Fröbel and Maria Montessori in Germany and Switzerland  
**14.35** Discussion  
**15.15** Break  
**15.45** *Meike Baader*, The intersection between the German women's and kindergarten movements in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries  
**16.10** *Chiara Bertone*, The claims of the women's movement on preschools in Italy and Denmark  
**16.35** *Arianna Lazzari*, Comment on Baader and Bertone  
**16.45-17.30** Discussion  
**19.30** Conference dinner

## Saturday, 12 October 2013

### Part 3: Kindergarten/preschool as part of the welfare state and/or the school system

- 9.00** *Sonya Michel*, Preschool, child care and welfare reform in the US  
**9.25** *Annette Henninger*, Comment on Michel  
**9.35** Discussion  
**10.00** *Karen Hagemann*, Comparing time policies of child-care and schooling in Eastern and Western Europe, 1945-1989  
**10.30** Discussion  
**10.50** Break  
**11.10** *Janneke Plantenga*, A welfare economist's view on differential preschool developments  
**11.35** Discussion  
**11.55** *Helen Penn*, How the private market has been constructed in early education and child care: a comparative perspective  
**12.20** Discussion  
**12.40-13.00** Concluding discussions



Pictures by courtesy of Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University

