

# The Origins of Public Services

## A Talk by Johannes Lindvall



Thursday, March 26, 2020 | 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Pardee School of Global Studies, 121 Bay State Road

Johannes Lindvall is a Professor of Political Science at Lund University, Sweden. He is the author with Ben Ansell of *Inward Conquest, or The Origins of Public Services*, which will be published by Cambridge University Press this year. The book studies the origins of seven public services: policing and prisons, which promoted public order; schools and libraries, which promoted knowledge; and mental institutions, vaccinations, and midwifery, which promoted mental and public health. He and co-author Ben Ansell analyze the development of these seven services in nineteen states between the turn of the nineteenth century and the outbreak of the Second World War. Their first goal is to account for the sheer expansion of public services in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Their second goal is to analyze ensuing political conflicts. When public authorities began to promote order, knowledge, and mental and public health, they started to engage more systematically—and insidiously—in social control.

