Public Policy Analysis and Management 2013/2014

Codi: 42271
Crèdits: 10

<table>
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<th>Titulació</th>
<th>Tipus</th>
<th>Curs</th>
<th>Semestre</th>
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<tr>
<td>4313335 Ciència Política / Political Science</td>
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**Professor de contacte**

Nom: Raquel Gallego Calderón
Correu electrònic: Raquel.Gallego@uab.cat

**Utilització d’idiomes**

Llengua vehicular majoritària: anglès (eng)

**Prerequisits**

Students taking this course should have Bachelor's level knowledge about political and administrative institutions and comparative politics.

**Objectius**

1. To understand the main theoretical and methodological models in public policy analysis and management.
2. To learn how to apply those theoretical and methodological models in order to carry out a research in this field.
3. To understand how to apply that knowledge to the analysis of and intervention in complex social and political problems.
4. To acquire the knowledge and the necessary skills to apply it within organizational environments in the field of politics and public management.

**Competències**

- Analyse public policies in different sectors.
- Applied theoretical knowledge acquired from the analysis of real situation and using political analysis generate useful orientations for decision-making.
- Demonstration reading comprehension for specialist texts in English.
- Possess and understand knowledge that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in the development and/or application of ideas, often in a research context
- Recognise the complexity of politics today, its diversity and the tensions to which it is exposed, with special emphasis on the Spanish and European contexts.
- Student should possess the learning skills that enable them to continue studying in a way that is largely student led or independent
- Work in international and interdisciplinary teams whose members have different origins and backgrounds.

**Resultats d’aprenentatge**

1. Analyse public policies independently of their sectorial specialisation
2. Anticipate the consequences of designing a specific public policy.
3. Apply the main theories for the analysis of processes for drawing up, implementing and evaluating public policies
4. Demonstration reading comprehension for specialist texts in English.
5. Design instruments to evaluate a specific public policy.
6. Identify the different agents involved in the definition of a policy, its scope for action, interests and resources.
7. Identify the different factors and variables that may be involved in the definition and results of public policy.
8. Identify the importance of specific political contexts when designing policies.
9. Identify the main agents involved in the generation and design of policies, with special emphasis not only on their particular complexity but also that of the interrelated network environments.
10. Possess and understand knowledge that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in the development and/or application of ideas, often in a research context.
11. Student should possess the learning skills that enable them to continue studying in a way that is largely student led or independent.
12. Work in international and interdisciplinary teams whose members have different origins and backgrounds.

Continguts

The syllabus includes six topics that are organized in different sessions around specific questions. The learning process aims to provide answers to such questions that should be based on the use of theory and on the confrontation of different interpretations. The answers derive from having done the compulsory reading (see teaching method and bibliography), from having listened to the lecturers' presentations, from having debated all these contents, and from having applied them to case studies.

The sessions will be held from 15:00 to 20:00.

Topic 1. Public management: concepts, instruments and context

Session 1: Concepts and instruments: defining Public Policy, Public Management and the approaches to the study of Public Policy (Xavier Ballart, 10/10/13)

Questions:
1. What is "public policy" and what is "public management"?
2. What does it mean to study the "policy process" vs. "policy impact"?
3. Think of a public problem and the policy that tries to do something about it. What is its basic rationality?

Reading:


Case study:
Policy change and primary health care reform (case presented by instructor)

Session 2: Actors, networks and governance. (Ismael Blanco, 18/10/13) (FRIDAY)

Question:
1. What are the main elements of the Advocacy Coalition Framework?
2. What is the role of networks in the policy process?
3. What are the main categories of actors?
4. What is the relation with Kingdon's policy process theory?

**Reading:**


**Cas:**

Choose a sectoral policy and analyze the network of actors a public manager should deal with.

**Topic 2. Actors, problems, and agendas**

**Session 1: Actors and problems. (Raquel Gallego, 24/10/13)**

**Questions:**

4. What is a problem from a policy analysis perspective?

5. What sort of ideas become problems?

**Readings:**


**Case study:**

Moore's case of "Heroine: an exercise of problem definition".

Swine Flu.

**Session 2: … and Agendas. (Raquel Gallego 31/10/13)**

**Questions:**

1. How can we understand the process of public and institutional agendas?

2. Choose a problem as an example and analyze how it gets access to the institutional agenda.

**Readings:**


Case study:

Swine Flu


Questions:

1. What is the meaning of "bounded rationality"?
2. What is "incrementalism"?
3. What is the "Advocacy Coalition Framework"?

Reading:


Case study:

Mental Hospital

Topic 4. Implementation. (Raquel Gallego 14/11/13)

Question:

How can we move towards success in implementation. Analize an example.

Readings:


Case study:

Blackstone project.

Topic 5. Evaluation.

Session 1. What does the administration understand by "evaluation”? Indicators. (Xavier Ballart, 21/11/13)

Questions:

1. How would you proceed to identify indicators for a program or service?
2. Identify problems with indicators that have been discussed by the literature
3. Define indicators for the evaluation of a postgraduate program.

Reading


Case

The ladder and its steps

Session 2. What do academics understand by "evaluation"? Design and use. (Xavier Ballart, 28/11/13)

Questions:

1. What are the main branches in evaluation?
2. What does the literature understand by "evaluation of implementation"?
3. What does the literature understand by "impact evaluation" and how is this achieved "by design"?

Reading:


Case study:


Session 1. The Fourth Pillar of the Welfare State (childcare and long term care) (Margarita León, 12/12/13)

Questions:

1. What is the social investment perspective?
2. What are the new social risks that these policies respond to?
3. What are the policy implications of investing in childcare?

Readings:


CORE (2011) "Competence requirements in Early Childhood Education and Care" London and Ghent, September 2011
Case study:

The Heckman Equation http://heckmanequation.org/

Session 2. Public policy and Internet. (Mayo Fuster, 19/12/13)

Questions:

1. What has been the impact of Internet (both benefits and risks) on public management and the process of public policies? You may assess a global impact or the impact on a particular case.

2. What has been the impact of Internet on one or each of the policy making stages (elaboration, implementation, evaluation...)?

3. In what sense/to what extent has Internet contributed to the redefinition of the relationship between citizens and public institutions?

Readings:

Innovative proposals for essays are also welcome: it may be based on an experiment or have a blogpost format).


Margetts, Helen Z. (2009) "The Internet and Public Policy," Policy & Internet: Vol. 1: Iss. 1, Article 1. Available at: http://www.psoccommmons.org/policyandinternet/vol1/iss1/art1

Cases:


Reference bibliography

a) General:


Barzelay, M.; Gallego, R. 2006. 'From "new institutionalism" to "institutional processualism": Advancing knowledge about public management policy change'. Governance, 19, 4:531-557.


Lichtenhahn.


b) Policy sectors:


c) Academic journals:

International Journal of Public Administration

International Public Management Journal

Governance

Journal of European Public Policy

Journal of Policy Analysis and Management
Metodología

Learning is based on the reading and discussion about theoretical and empirical knowledge. The aim of learning is to acquire the capacity to formulate questions and answers -always provisional ones. To this end, students will have to be active and autonomous in searching and selecting relevant information, in reading and reflecting in order to create a rich and informed dialogue with the lecturer.

In this course, this autonomous effort will be required previously to each session, via reading and essay writing. This work will then be complemented with seminar discussions and oral presentations, which will help to better understand both theory and practice-based knowledge as well as to question it.

Class teaching will combine lectures and seminar/case discussions on theoretical and empirical knowledge -always trying to find the applicability of theory to empirical cases. Tutorial teaching will focus on the preparation of essays and presentations.

Activitats formatives

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<tr>
<th>Títol</th>
<th>Hores</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Resultats d’aprenentatge</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tipus: Dirigides</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lectures -attendance and participation</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>Tipus: Supervisades</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tipus: Autònomes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readind, essay writing and solving exercises</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12</td>
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Avaluació

Evaluation will be an ongoing process and will be based on the outputs of the different activities in which students will have to engage to show whether they have achieved the expected competencies. Such activities and outputs include:

1. Writing short essays on the topics of the different sessions (30% of the final grade).
2. Participating in the seminars and case study discussions (10% of the final grade).
3. Preparing and giving presentations (10% of the final grade).
4. Exam (50% of the final grade).

Activitats d’avaluació

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<td>Attendance and participation in class</td>
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b) Policy sectors:


Barcelona. Ariel.


c) Academic journals:

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*International Public Management Journal*

*Governance*

*Journal of European Public Policy*

*Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*

*Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*

*Public Administration - an international quarterly.*