UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

2020/2021

Public Management Evaluation

Code: 101112
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500259 Political Science and Public Management	OT	3	2
2500259 Political Science and Public Management	OT	4	0

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: **catalan (cat)**

Some groups entirely in English: **No**

Some groups entirely in Catalan: **Yes**

Some groups entirely in Spanish: **No**

Prerequisites

In the case of students of the political science degree, it is assumed that the student knows, at least, the concepts and theories worked on in the subjects "Administration and Public Policies", "Public Management" and "Methodology of political analysis" .

Objectives and Contextualisation

This course aims to give an overview of the reality of the field of public management evaluation, both in the literature and in the professional world. The general objective is to provide students with the information and tools they need to understand the conceptual boundaries of the field, the methods that can be used and the issues that are present in the current debate about the usefulness of evaluation for public management and for the analysis of policies.

Whether students end up as central, regional or local government officials, or if they end up working as policy advisors, in the private sector or in the Third Sector, they will most likely need to work in contact with professional evaluators and consultants. Therefore, they should develop studies that provide information on the performance and costs of the organization, services, programs or policies in which they work.

The course is developed through the analysis of cases that illustrate the evaluation in professional practice. The students will be involved through practical exercises that allow them to make the ideas present in the literature more tangible and put them in touch with the real world.

This is an optional subject for students who want to learn practical approaches that will serve in their professional career as a consultant or analyst. It is important then the interest, the good humor and it can be present in most of the sessions.

Competences

Political Science and Public Management
- Analysing public policies, both in their elaboration and implementation processes.

- Applying the discipline's main theories and different fields to real practical and professional problems.
- Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
- Demonstrating the understanding of intergovernmental relationships and identifying the position of Public Administrations in the political system.
- Describing and understanding the functioning of the Public Administration on a state, sub-state and supranational level.
- Designing data collection techniques, coordinating the information processing and meticulously applying hypothesis verification methods.
- Distinguishing the discipline's main theories and different fields: conceptual developments, theoretical frameworks and theoretical approaches underlying the discipline's knowledge and different areas and sub-areas, as well as their value for the professional practice through concrete cases.
- Identifying sources of data and conducting bibliographic and documentary searches.
- Interpreting and applying English texts in an academic way.
- Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.
- Producing and planning researches or analytical reports.
- Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
- Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
- Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
- Using different tools for the analysis and explanation of the formulation, decision, implementation and evaluation processes in public policies.
- Using the main information and documentation techniques (ICT) as an essential tool for the analysis.
- Working autonomously.
- Working by using quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques in order to apply them to research processes.
- Working in teams and networking, particularly in interdisciplinary conditions.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analysing public policies, both in their elaboration and implementation processes.
2. Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
3. Critically analysing the configuration process of the public agenda.
4. Critically assessing some of the public policies carried out by an authority in the State of Autonomies.
5. Demonstrating the understanding of intergovernmental relationships and identifying the position of Public Administrations in the political system.
6. Describing and understanding the functioning of the Public Administration on a state, sub-state and supranational level.
7. Designing data collection techniques, coordinating the information processing and meticulously applying hypothesis verification methods.
8. Distinguishing the phases of public politics: formulation, decision, implementation and evaluation.
9. Identifying sources of data and conducting bibliographic and documentary searches.
10. Interpreting and applying English texts in an academic way.
11. Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.
12. Producing and planning researches or analytical reports.
13. Properly explaining and describing main theoretical approaches of the analysis of political sciences: cycle of politics, actor-network, institutional approaches, rational choice theory.
14. Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
15. Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
16. Suggesting and explaining a case study of a concrete public policy.
17. Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
18. Using different tools for the analysis and explanation of the formulation, decision, implementation and evaluation processes in public policies.
19. Using the main information and documentation techniques (ICT) as an essential tool for the analysis.
20. Working autonomously.

21. Working by using quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques in order to apply them to research processes.
22. Working in teams and networking, particularly in interdisciplinary conditions.

Content

T0. Introduction

- What is the course about, what should we learn and what is the commitment of the teacher and students?

T1 Definition, purposes, type and use of the evaluation

- Definitions and typologies.

- When to do an evaluation? Think about the use from the beginning.

- Evaluation questions.

T2. Theories

- The main theoretical branches in the development of policy evaluation.

- The great authors and their main contributions.

T3 Qualitative methodology

- Conceptual and theoretical approach.

- Methodological approach.

- Qualitative techniques.

- Analysis of cases through seminars and practices.

T4 Measuring performance through indicators

- Theoretical approach.

- Characteristics and types of indicators.

- Methodology for the construction of indicators.

- Indicators management models.

- Analysis of cases through seminars and practices.

T5 Needs assessment

- Document the needs.

- Indicators and quantification of needs.

- Analysis of cases through seminars and practices.

T6. Design evaluation

- The theory of change.

- The design of the policies.

- Analysis of cases through seminars and practices.

T7 Evaluation of the implementation

- Analysis of the administrative and management process

- Variations in the organizations providing the final service.

- Variations in the profiles of the user and beneficiary populations.

- Analysis of cases through seminars and practices.

T8 Impact evaluation

- Impact evaluation with comparison groups.

- Impact evaluation based on statistical control.

- Analysis of cases through seminars and practices.

T9 economic evaluation

- Cost evaluation (ingredients).

- Cost effectiveness evaluation.

- Analysis of cases through seminars and practices.

The calendar detailed with the content of the different sessions will be presented on the day of presentation of the subject. It will be uploaded to the Virtual Campus, where students will also be able to access the detailed description of the exercises and practices, the various teaching materials, and any necessary information for the proper follow-up of the subject.

Methodology

The subject "Evaluation of Public Management" has 6 cr ECTS, that is, a total of 150 hours of student dedication (25 hours per credit). These hours are structured in the following training activities and in the teaching methodology indicated:

Directed activities:

- Classes / seminar: Analysis of the contents in seminar format based on the readings of the recommended bibliography and its application to specific cases. Supported by exhibitions by the teacher.

- Practices: application of evaluation techniques to real cases of public policies.

- Presentation of papers: group presentations and evaluation round.

Supervised activities:

- Support tutorials to carry out the work and follow the course.

Autonomous activities:

- Reading of texts: individual exercise.

- Study: realization of diagrams and summaries.

- Writing of papers: application of concepts and methods to a specific problem. Group exercise

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
On-site classes / Seminars	28	1.12	13, 3, 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 16, 17, 21, 18, 4
Type: Supervised			
Classroom practices	18	0.72	1, 8, 12, 11, 9, 15, 16, 17, 21, 20, 19, 4
Group work tutoring	2	0.08	1, 2, 7, 8, 12, 14, 11, 15, 16, 17, 21, 20, 22, 19
Tutoring	2	0.08	3, 1, 2, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 4
Type: Autonomous			
Readin (50h)	0	0	10, 15, 17, 20
Studying (10h)	14	0.56	1, 2, 11, 15, 17, 21, 20
Written essays (40h)	0	0	13, 3, 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 11, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 21, 20, 22, 18, 19, 4

Assessment

The final grade is composed of:

• Continuous evaluation (seminars and class participation): 25% of the grade

• Practices: 50% of the grade

• Course work: 25% of the grade (group work of three and four people)

Students will be entitled to the recovery of the subject if it has been evaluated of the set of activities, the weight of which must be a minimum of 2/3 of the total grade of the subject.

To have access to revaluation, the previous grades should be 3,5.

Continuous evaluation (seminars and participation) is excluded from the revaluation process.

The student will be entitled to the revaluation of the subject if he or she has been evaluated of the set of activities the weight of which equals a minimum of 2/3 of the total grade of the subject.

The student who performs any irregularity (copy, plagiarism, identity theft...) that can lead to a significant variation of the qualification of an evaluation act, will be qualified with 0 this act of evaluation. In case there are several irregularities, the final grade of the subject will be 0.

In accordance with article 117.2 of the UAB Academic Regulations, the evaluation of those students who have been enroled before may consist of a single synthesis examination. The students who wish to be evaluated this way should contact the professor at the beginning of the semester.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Classroom practices	50	16	0.64	13, 3, 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 14, 11, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 21, 20, 22, 18, 19, 4
Seminars and class participation	25	28	1.12	13, 3, 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 14, 11, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 21, 20, 22, 18, 19, 4

| Written essays | 25 | 42 | 1.68 | 5, 6, 14, 11, 15, 16, 17, 22, 18 |

Bibliography

IN CATALAN OR SPANISH

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Rosselló, David 2008 *Evaluación de Políticas Culturales Barcelona*, Ariel

Ruíz Olabuénaga, J.I.1996 *Tècnicas de Investigación cualitativa.* Bilbao: Universidad de Deusto.

IN ENGLISH

General

Rossi, Peter et al. 2003, *Evaluation. A Systematic Approach*. Sage.

Vedung, Evert, 2000, *Public Policy and Program Evaluation*, Transaction.

Weiss, Carol, 1998 *Evaluation*, 2nd edition, Prentice Hall.

Theory-Driven

Birckmayer, J. and C. Weiss, 2000, "Theory-Based Evaluation in Practice: What do we learn?" *Evaluation*, 24 (4) August 2000.

Donaldson, S. 2003, "Theory-Driven Program Evaluation in the New Millenium" in Donaldson and Scriven, *Evaluating Social Programs and Problems: Visions for the New Millennium*, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates,

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Kaplan, R.S. D.P Norton, 1996 *The Balanced Scorecard: Translating Strategy into Action*. Harvard Business School Press

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"Perceptions of Productivity and Performance in Europe and The United States", *International Journal of Public Administration*, 30, 1123-1140,

Economic Evaluation

Levin, H. 1983, *Cost Effectiveness. A Primer*. Sage.

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Surveys

Fowler, 1993, *Survey Research Methods*, Sage.

Van Ryzin, G. 2007, "Can citizens accurately judge public performance?" Paper presented at EGPA, Madrid.

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Stake, R. 1995, The art of case study research. Sage.

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Greiner, J.M., 1994, "Use of ratings by trained observers". In J.S. Wholey, H.P. Hatry, K.E. Newcomer (eds.), *Handbook of Practical Program Evaluation*, San Francisco: Jossey Bass.

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Dean, D.L., 1994, "Howto Use Focus Groups". In J.S. Wholey, H.P. Hatry, K.E. Newcomer (eds.), *Handbook of Practical Program Evaluation*, San Francisco: Jossey Bass.

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S.D. Mastrofski et al., 1998, *Systematic Observation of Public Police: Applying Field Research Methods to Policy Issues*. Washington DC: National Institute of Justice.

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Turner, M.A., W. Zimmerman, 1994, "Acting for the Sake of Research: The Use of Role-Playing in Evaluation". In J.S. Wholey, H.P. Hatry, K.E. Newcomer (eds.), *Handbook of Practical Program Evaluation*, San Francisco: Jossey Bass.

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Averch, H.A., 1994, "The Systematic Use of Expert Judgment". In J.S. Wholey, H.P. Hatry, K.E. Newcomer (eds.), *Handbook of Practical Program Evaluation,* San Francisco: Jossey Bass.

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