

Public Policy Analysis and Management

Code: 42271
ECTS Credits: 10

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313335 Political Science	OB	0	1
4317157 Advanced Research in Political Science	OB	1	1

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: english (eng)

Teachers

Raquel Gallego Calderón
Margarita Leon
Ixchel Perez Duran

External teachers

Lara Maestriperi

Prerequisites

As a minimum level, students should hold a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent, in any knowledge area within social sciences.

Objectives and Contextualisation

To understand the main theoretical debates in public policy and methodological analysis and management.
To provide with an overview of the main issues currently alive in debates on social policy, public administration reform and in public management
To learn how to apply those theoretical and methodological models in order to carry out research in this field.
To understand how to apply that knowledge to the analysis of and intervention in complex social and political problems.
To comprehend how similar issues and public policy dilemmas are expressed differently in different national contexts
To acquire the knowledge and the necessary skills to apply it within organizational environments in the field of politics and public management.
To be able to have an informed opinion of the current tensions between fiscal and social policies that in the current context of austerity many countries are faced with.

Competences

Political Science

- 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.

Advanced Research in Political Science

- Apply knowledge and techniques to analyse political situations to be able to generate proposals and points of view which are useful for decision-making.
- Continue the learning process, to a large extent autonomously.
- Examine public policies in different sector areas.
- Recognise the complexity of political situations, diversity and the tensions to which they are subjected, with special emphasis on the Spanish and European contexts.
- Understand and produce advanced specialised research texts in political science.
- Use acquired knowledge as a basis for originality in the application of ideas, often in a research context.
- Work in international and inter-disciplinary teams.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse public policies independently of their sector specialisation.
2. Analyse public policies independently of their sectorial specialisation.
3. Anticipate the consequences of designing a specific public policy.
4. Anticipate the possible consequences of a specific public policy.
5. Apply the main theories for the analysis of processes for drawing up, implementing and evaluating public policies.
6. Apply the main theories for the processes of drafting, implementing and evaluating public policies.
7. Continue the learning process, to a large extent autonomously.
8. Demonstration reading comprehension for specialist texts in English.
9. Design instruments to evaluate a specific public policy.
10. Distinguish between the main actors involved in the processes of generating and drafting public policies with particular attention not only to their particular complexity but also to the network environments which interrelate them.
11. Identify the different agents involved in the definition of a policy, its scope for action, interests and resources.
12. Identify the different factors and variables that could affect the definitions and results of a public policy.
13. Identify the different factors and variables that may be involved in the definition and results of public policy.
14. Identify the different relevant actors involved in the definition of a policy, their fields of action, interests and resources.
15. Identify the importance of specific political contexts when designing a policy.
16. Identify the importance of specific political contexts when designing policies.
17. 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.
18. 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.
19. Student should possess the learning skills that enable them to continue studying in a way that is largely student led or independent.
20. Understand and produce advanced specialised research texts in political science.

21. Use acquired knowledge as a basis for originality in the application of ideas, often in a research context.
22. Work in international and inter-disciplinary teams.
23. Work in international and interdisciplinary teams whose members have different origins and backgrounds.

Content

PUBLIC MANAGEMENT TOPICS

(More detail in the syllabus to be distributed)

Bureaucracies and post bureaucracies

Public leadership and strategic management

Organizational configurations. From hierarchy to networks

Objectives and performance information

Contract like relations and bringing in the third sector

Human Resources Management

Public Service Motivation

Public service use and perceived performance

Public management and innovation

Citizen participatory instruments and public consultation

Accountability

PUBLIC POLICY TOPICS

Concepts and instruments: defining Public Policy and the approaches to study Public Policy

Methodologies in Public Policy

Science and Public Policy

Politics and Public Policy

Democracy and the Welfare State

Social Investment and the Welfare State

Policy changes: retrenchment, resilience and recalibration

From Austerity to Permanent Strain

Family Policy, Child care

Youth Unemployment

Regulatory Policy

Methodology

Learning is based on the reading and discussion of theoretical and empirical knowledge.

The aim is to acquire the capacity to formulate questions and answers. To this end, students will have to be active and autonomous in searching and selecting relevant information, in reading and thinking in order to create a rich and informed dialogue with the lecturer.

This autonomous effort will be required previously to each session, via reading, essay writing and some cases and exercises. 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, exercise discussions on theoretical and empirical knowledge -always trying to find the applicability of theory to the real world.

Tutorial teaching will focus on the preparation of essays, exercises and presentations.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures, attendance and participation	125	5	3, 8, 9, 11, 13, 16, 19, 18, 23
Type: Supervised			
Seminars and tutorials	50	2	3, 9, 11, 13, 16, 19, 18, 23
Type: Autonomous			
Reading, essay writing and solving exercises	70	2.8	3, 8, 9, 11, 13, 16, 19, 18, 23

Assessment

Evaluation will be both continuous and final. It will be based on the outputs of the different activities in which students will engage to show they have achieved the expected competencies.

Such activities and outputs include:

1. Practical exercises proposed in class (public management)
2. Short essays on readings (public policy)
3. A test (public management)
4. A final paper (public policy)

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Practical exercises Public Management and essays Public Policy	80%	2.5	0.1	2, 1, 3, 4, 6, 5, 20, 8, 9, 10, 17, 11, 14, 12, 13, 16, 15, 19, 7, 18, 21, 23, 22
Test	20%	2.5	0.1	3, 8, 9, 11, 13, 16, 19, 18, 23

Bibliography

(More detailed in the syllabus to be distributed)

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Software

(More detail in the syllabus to be distributed)