Public Policy Analysis and Management

Master in Political Science
Academic year 2023-2024, Fall semester
10 ECTS
Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:30-14:00

Coordinator

Prof. Xavier Ballart
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Office hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10 am

Faculty

Public Management: Xavier Ballart, Ixchel Pérez
Public Policy: Raquel Gallego, Leire Rincón, Manuel Alvariño, Sheila González, Roger Soler

Objectives

- To understand the main theoretical debates in public management and public policy analysis
- To provide an overview of the main issues currently alive in debates on public administration reform and social policy
- To acquire the knowledge and have an overview of the skills that are necessary within organizational environments in the field of politics and public management.
- To learn to apply knowledge to the analysis of complex social and political problems
- To learn to apply theoretical and methodological models in order to carry out research in this field
- To comprehend how similar issues and public policy dilemmas are expressed differently in different national contexts

Learning method and Evaluation

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.

In this course, autonomous effort will be required previously to each session, via reading, essay writing, exercises or cases. This work will be complemented with seminar

discussions and oral presentations, which will help to 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 trying to find the applicability of theory to the real world. Tutorial teaching will focus on the preparation of essays, exercises, cases and presentations.

Evaluation

For the <u>Public Management Sessions</u>, students will submit 3 practical exercises proposed in class. Exercises will combine information from the required reading and some original contribution by the student. The deadline for submitting each exercise is the day and time of the class indicated for each exercise.

For the <u>Public Policy Sessions</u> students will have to submit 3 brief essays of readings/cases. Please follow the essay guide.

The final grade will be the average between Public Management (50%) and Public Policy (50%). Evaluation within each part consists of:

- Public Management: Average of grades obtained in the 3 class exercises plus a final test. Final test is a multiple-choice - 40 questions test. The test is 25 % of the final module grade.
- Public Policy: Average of the grades obtained in the 3 brief essays and the longer final essay. The final essay is 25 % of the final module grade.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism in its many different forms is strictly forbidden. The more obvious instances of plagiarism include copying material from a third party (book, journal, another student, etc.) without citing the source, presenting an argument as your own – whether or not it is a direct quotation – rather than fully acknowledging the true originator of the idea, having another person help you to write your essay, and ultimately, buying an essay. Please note that taking materials from the internet without acknowledging the source is also plagiarism.

All of these are instances of academic dishonesty, which the university and the department takes very seriously will result in academic penalty which can go from failing the specific assignment, failing the module or failing the entire MPS. It is your responsibility to know the rules. We strongly recommend paying serious attention to the general guidelines for this Master's program.

Class preparation: materials are up-loaded in the course Moodle (Campus Virtual)

Session topics Public Management sessions

As public management is closer to practice than to theoretical debates, classes intend to be applied and illustrate the ideas with the presentation of real-world examples.

The course includes two types of activities during the sessions: lectures, focusing on the main conceptual frames on each topic, readings and case discussions.

1. October 3rd /2023
   Intro, today's context for Public and Third Sector Management
   + Case
   Instructor: Dr. Xavier Ballart

2. October 5th /2023
   Management and Leadership
   + Case
   Instructor: Dr. Xavier Ballart

3. October 10th /2023
   Comparative Performance
   + Readings presentations
   Instructor: Dr. Xavier Ballart

(October 12th /2023 No class, holiday)

4. October 17th /2023
   Work and Public Service Motivation
   + Readings presentations
   Instructor: Dr. Xavier Ballart

5. October 19th / 2023
   Summary Exercise for classes with Xavier Ballart
   Instructor: Dr. Ixchel Pérez-Durán

6. October 24th / 2023
   Accountability and Transparency in Public Administration
   Instructor: Dr. Ixchel Pérez-Durán

7. October 26th / 2023
   Exercise: Assessing and Measuring Accountability/Transparency
   Instructor: Dr. Ixchel Pérez-Durán

8. October 31st / 2023
   Representative bureaucracy
   + Readings presentations

Instructor: Dr. Ixchel Pérez-Durán

9. November 2nd/ 2023
    Regulatory State
    + Artificial Intelligence and Algorithms in Public Administration
    Instructor: Dr Ixchel Pérez-Durán

10. November 7th / 2023
    CUBE case: Artificial intelligence and automated decision-making in welfare
    policies
    Instructors: Dr Ixchel Pérez-Durán and Dr. Xavier Ballart
    The second part of the session will be dedicated to a 40 questions summary test**.**

Session topics Public Policy sessions

11. November 9th / 2023
    Public Policy Process (I): Actors and Problems
    Instructor: Dr. Raquel Gallego

12. November 14th /2023
    Public Policy Process (II): Agendas and Decisions
    Instructor: Dr. Raquel Gallego

13. November 16st /2023
    Welfare state change from a comparative perspective
    Instructor: Dr. Manuel Alvariño

14. November 21rd /2023
    Care and Work-life balance policies
    Instructor: Dr. Manuel Alvariño

15. November 23th / 2023
    Basic income policies, perceptions
    Instructor: Dr. Leire Rincón

16. November 28th / 2023
    Basic income policies, alternatives
    Instructor: Dr. Leire Rincón

17. November 30th / 2023
    Education policies, social segregation
    Instructor: Dr Sheila González

18. December 5th/ 2023
    Education policies: remedies to social segregation

Instructor: Dr Sheila González

(December 7th /2023 No class, holidays the day before and the day after)

19. December 12th / 2023
    Youth policies: youth transitions and welfare state
    Instructor: Dr. Roger Soler

20. December 14th / 2023
    Youth policies: theory and practice of cross-sectional policies
    Instructor: Dr. Roger Soler

PUBLIC POLICY PAPER due January 15th.

Professor Raquel Gallego will provide the guidelines for the paper in the course Moodle and the correction which will be shared by all the instructors participating in the Public Policy part of the course.

Readings for each session, journal articles or book chapters, will be published in The Moodle - *Campus Virtual* before each session.

Remedial textbooks for Public Administration/ Public Management

- Ferlie, E., Lynn, L.E. Jr and Pollitt, Ch. 2005. *The Oxford Handbook of Public Management*, New York: Oxford University Press.

- Kuhlmann, S. and Wollmann, H. 2014. *Introduction to Comparative Public Administrations. Administrative Systems and Reform in Europe*. Cheltenham and Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar.

- Ongaro, E. 2009. *Public Management Reform: Trajectories of Administrative Change in Italy, France, Greece, Portugal and Spain*. London: Edward Elgar.

- Perry, J., Christensen, R.K. 2015. *Handbook of Public Administration,* London: Routledge.

- Pollitt, C. and Bouckaert, G. 2004 *Public Management Reform. A Comparative Analysis*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Remedial textbooks for Public Policy

- Hill, M. ed. 1997. *The policy process. A reader*. Hertfordshire. Prentice Hall

- Kingdon, J. 1995. *Agendas, alternatives, and public policies*. New York. HarperCollins.

- Moran, Rein and Goodin. 2006. *The Oxford Handbook of Public Policy*, Oxford University Press

- Sabatier and Weible 2014 *Theories of the Policy Process*

- Stone, D. 2002. *Policy paradox. The art of political decision making*. London. Norton.

Students are encouraged to actively search for academic papers in scientific journals:

Governance, an International Journal of Policy, Administration and Institutions
International Journal of Public Administration
International Journal of Public Sector Management
International Public Management Journal
Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis
Journal of European Public Policy
Journal of European Social Policy
Journal of South European Society and Politics
Journal of Policy Analysis and Management
Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory
Journal of Public Policy
Local Government Studies
Public Administration -An international quarterly
Public Management Review

Academic blogs:
Policy Network http://www.policy-network.net/pno.aspx
Social Europe http://www.socialeurope.eu