

Public Policy Analysis and Management

Coordinator

Daniel Edmiston

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Masters in Political Science

Academic year 2025-2026, Fall semester 10 ECTS

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-13:30

Faculty

Xavier Ballart, Daniel Edmiston, Sergio Villamayor-Tomas, Raquel Gallego, Margarita León, Lorenzo Vidal

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

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 and their peers.

This autonomous effort will be required prior to each session, via reading, essay writing and some cases and exercises. This work will 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, seminar discussions on theoretical and empirical knowledge as well as case study and exercise work – always trying to find the applicability of theory to the real world. Teaching will focus on the preparation of essays, exercises and presentations.

Class preparation: materials are uploaded in the course Moodle (Campus Virtual).

Evaluation

Students will be assessed across 6 assignments through the course of the module.

Assignments are designed to support and assess your learning through a range of exercises. Assignments are adapted to the requirements and content of sessions led by instructors and will include group work, presentations, online quizzes and case study exercises. All assignments will combine information from the sessions, required readings and some original contribution by the student. To help you plan your time, the deadline for submitting/completing is indicated in the module outline below. The final grade will be the average of the 6 assignments. For details of each assessment, please refer to session outlines from page 5 onwards.

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, and/or having another person help you to write your 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.

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Module Outline

Week	Date	Instructor	Topic	Date	Instructor	Topic	Assignment
1	30/09	Daniel Edmiston	Introduction	02/10	Xavier Ballart	Today's context for public & third sector management	
2	07/10	Xavier Ballart	Management and leadership	09/10	Xavier Ballart	Performance of public services	
3	14/10	Xavier Ballart	Work and public service motivation*	16/10	Raquel Gallego	Policy analysis: process, networks and outputs	1
4	21/10	Raquel Gallego	Social innovation and public policy*	23/10	Sergio Villamayor-Tomas	Environmental policy I: command-and-control instruments	2
5	28/10	Sergio Villamayor-Tomas	Environmental policy II: economic instruments	30/10	Sergio Villamayor-Tomas	Environmental policy III: information and participation*	3
6	04/11	Daniel Edmiston	Private actors in public policy	06/11	Daniel Edmiston	Welfare pluralism: design and implementation	
7	11/11	Margarita León	The politics of abortion: Public health or the Divine Commandment?	13/11	Margarita León	Consensual sex, Amoral Sex or Violence against women? The (difficult) business of regulating Prostitution*	4
8	18/11	Lorenzo Vidal	Beyond asset-based welfare: the return of rental housing question	20/11	Lorenzo Vidal	Affordable housing provision: models and histories	5
9	25/11	Daniel Edmiston	Social security policy: street-level bureaucracy and accountability	27/11	Daniel Edmiston	Social security policy: street-level bureaucracy and accountability	
10	02/12	Daniel Edmiston	Case studies: street-level bureaucracy and accountability*	04/12	Daniel Edmiston	Poverty and inequality in Europe: policy progress and priorities	6

Detailed description of sessions and associated assessments

Week 1: 30/09/2025 Introduction

Instructor: Daniel Edmiston

This session will introduce the module, its format and methods of learning and assessment. We will also outline and begin to discuss the key threshold concepts to be covered in the module to orientate students towards past and contemporary debates within Public Management and Policy Analysis.

Week 1: 02/10/2025 Today's context for Public and Third Sector Management

Instructor: Xavier Ballart

Read two cases before the session: “Food Stamps” case and “Peruvian” case.

Support Reading:

- De Vries, M. and Nemec, J. (2013), "Public sector reform: an overview of recent literature and research on NPM and alternative paths", *International Journal of Public Sector Management*, Vol. 26 Iss 1 pp. 4 - 16

Week 2: 07/10/2025 Management and leadership

Instructor: Xavier Ballart

Read “Swedish” case before the session

Support Reading:

- Grant, A. (2012) “Leading with meaning: beneficiary contact, prosocial impact, and the performance effects of transformational leadership”. *Academy of Management Journal*. Vol. 55, No. 2, 458–476. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5465/amj.2010.0588>

Week 2: 09/10/2025 Performance of public services

Instructor: Xavier Ballart

Read “Mozaran and Izaltenango” case before the session

Support Reading:

- Xavier Ballart, Enrique Hernandez & Marc Esteve (2024) Enhancing satisfaction with public services: The effect of recalling personal experiences, *International Public Management Journal*, 27:2, 284-301, DOI: 10.1080/10967494.2024.2317835

Week 3: 14/10/2025 Work and public service motivation

Instructor: Xavier Ballart

Read “Jobs with the hart” case before the session

Support Reading:

- Esteve. M. and Schuster, C. (2019) *Motivating public Employees*, Cambridge University Press (fragment)

***ASSESSMENT DETAILS:**

Individual assessment of the topics covered by Professor Xavier Ballart and readings based on 3 questions

Week 3: 16/10/2025

Policy analysis: process, networks and outputs

Instructor: Raquel Gallego

In this section we will focus on concepts and mainstream theories for the analysis of policy making. We will review different process models to explore how factors such as problem definition, typology of networks and governance dynamics, issue career and streams, or the activation of social mechanisms impact on the output of decision making.

[You may do the required readings before the session, but it is not necessary.]

Required Reading:

- Barzelay, Michael and Raquel Gallego. 2006 “From ‘new institutionalism’ to institutional processualism’: Advancing knowledge about public management policy change”, *Governance*, 19(4):531-557. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-0491.2006.00339.x>
- Howlett, Michael. (2002) “Do Networks Matter? Linking Policy Network Structure to Policy Outcomes: Evidence from Four Canadian Policy Sectors 1990-2000”, *Canadian Journal of Political Science / Revue Canadienne de Science Politique*, 35(2):235–267. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0008423902778232>
- Beach, D. (2022). Process Tracing Methods in the Social Sciences. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Retrieved 31 Aug. 2025, from <https://oxfordre.com/politics/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.001.0001/acrefore-9780190228637-e-176>.

Recommended reading:

- Barzelay, M. 2003. “Introduction: The Process Dynamics of Public Management Policy-Making”, *International Public Management Journal* 6: 251-281
- Beach, D. (2016) “It’s all about mechanisms – what process-tracing case studies should be tracing”. *New Political Economy*, 21(5):463–472. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13563467.2015.1134466>
- Howett, M. (2019) “The Temporal Dimension(s) of Policy Designs: Resilience, Robustness and the Sequencing of Tools in Policy Mixes.” *International Review of Public Policy* 1(1): 27–45. <http://journals.openedition.org/irpp/310>
- Moyson, S; Scholten P., Weible, C. (2017) “Policy learning and policy change: theorizing their relations from different perspectives”, *Policy and Society*, 36(2):161-177.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/epdf/10.1080/14494035.2017.1331879?needAccess=true&role=button>

- Peters, B. Guy (2018) *Policy problems and policy design*, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, ch. 2 (pg.35-59).
- Shearer, J. C.; Abelson, J.; Kouyaté, B.; Lavis, J. N.; Walt, G. (2016). Why do policies change? Institutions, interests, ideas and networks in three cases of policy reform. *Health Policy and Planning*, 31(9), 1200–1211. <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czw052>
- True, J. Jones, B. Baumgartner, F. (1999) “Punctuated-equilibrium theory: Explaining stability and change in American policymaking”, in Sabatier, P. *Theories of the policy process*, Oxford: Westview Press, pp. 97-116.
- Zahariadis, N. (1999) “Ambiguity, time and multiple streams”, in Sabatier, P. (ed) *Theories of the policy process*, Oxford: Westview Press, pp. 73-96.

Week 4: 21/10/2025

Social innovation and public policy: challenges and evidence

from research

Instructor: Raquel Gallego

In this session we will explore the concept and practice of social innovation and how it has been understood and addressed by civil society and by institutions. We will analyse the motivations and forms of social innovation, as well as the opportunities and challenges social innovation poses for public policies in terms of making equality and diversity compatible. To further illustrate this, we will focus on areas such as health, early childhood education and care, dependency care and support at home, and housing.

[You may do the required readings before the session, but it is not necessary.]

Required Reading:

- Häikiö, L., Fraisse, L., Adam, S., Jolanki, O., Knutagård, M. (2017). “The Janus face of social innovation in local welfare initiatives”. In F. Martinelli, A. Anttonen, & M. Mätzke, *Social Services Disrupted* (pp. 281–301). Edward Elgar Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781786432117.00024>
- Gallego, R., & Maestripieri, L. (2022). “Women's empowerment and social innovation in childcare: the case of Barcelona, Spain”, *European Societies*, 24(4), 493-519. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616696.2022.2092641>
- Gallego R, Maestripieri L. (2024) “Integrating social innovation and public policy: lessons from early childhood education and care in Barcelona, Spain”. *Journal of Public Policy*, 44(4):847-865. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0143814X24000230>

Recommended reading:

- Barbieri, N., Gallego, R., Morales, E., Muñoz, C., Quintana, B. (2021) “Facilitators and challenges of community action for health. Comparative analysis of four case studies in neighbourhoods of Barcelona”; (First published on line 2019). *Policy Studies*, 42(3), 271-288. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01442872.2019.1645323>
- Barbieri, N.; Gallego, R.; Morales, E.; Rodríguez-Sanz, M.; Palència, L.; Pasarín, M.I. (2018) “Measuring and Analysing Community Action for Health: An Indicator-Based

Typology and Its Application to the Case of Barcelona”, *Social Indicators Research*, 139:25–45. (First published on line 2017). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-017-1703-4>

- Gallego, R.; González-Motos, S.; Maestripieri, L. (eds.) (2024) *Social Innovation and Welfare State Retrenchment. A Comparative Analysis of Early Childhood Education and Care in Europe and Beyond*. Emerald Publishing Limited. <https://doi.org/10.1108/9781837539284>
- Gallego, R.; Raya, J.M. (dir.) (2022) “Yes We Rent! Impact evaluation summary” by Vidal, L, Bianchi, I.; Cruz, H.; Hernández-Pizarro, H.; Llaneza, C. <https://www.uia-initiative.eu/fr/uia-cities/mataro>
- Maestripieri, L.; Gallego, R. (2024) “The impact of social innovation on local welfare policy: lessons from a capability perspective” *Handbook on Social Innovation and Social Policy*. Sinclair, S. & Baglioni, S. (eds.). Edward Elgar Publishing, p. 49-61 (Handbook on Social Innovation and Social Policy).
- Maestripieri, L.; Gallego, R. (2024). Counter-professionalisation in collective childcare: The case of communities of care in Barcelona. *Current Sociology*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00113921241239642>

***ASSESSMENT DETAILS:**

Take-home individual assessment on the topics covered in ONE of the sessions by Professor Raquel Gallego (format and deadline submission to be announced in class).

Week 4: 23/10/2025

Environmental policy I: command-and-control instruments

Instructor: Sergio Villamayor-Tomas

This session will introduce how governments design, implement, and enforce command-and-control instruments to address environmental challenges. Key topics will include instruments (e.g., environmental regulation, property rights, standards), compliance mechanisms, and the balance between economic development and environmental protection, among others. Case studies will illustrate applications in areas such as pollution control, resource management, and climate policy.

Required Readings:

- Cazcarro, I., Villamayor-Tomas, S., Lobera, M. P., Murriá, J., & Bernechea, M. (2023). Networks of action situations in point-source pollution: the case of winery wastewater in Aragon, Spain. *Sustainability Science*, 18(1), 201-218.

Optional reading:

- Taylor, C., Pollard, S., Rocks, S., & Angus, A. (2012). Selecting policy instruments for better environmental regulation: a critique and future research agenda. *Environmental policy and governance*, 22(4), 268-292.

Week 5: 28/10/2025

Environmental policy II: economic instruments

Instructor: Sergio Villamayor-Tomas

This session will explore the use of economic policy instruments in environmental policymaking. It will examine how market-based tools such as taxes, subsidies, tradable permits, and incentives can influence environmental behavior and outcomes in areas such as

pollution control, resource management, and climate policy. The session will also critically review their effectiveness, efficiency, and equity implications.

Required Reading:

- de Lima, L. S., Barón, P. A. R., Villamayor-Tomas, S., & Krueger, T. (2019). Will PES schemes survive in the long-term without evidence of their effectiveness? Exploring four water-related cases in Colombia. *Ecological economics*, 156, 211-223.

Optional Reading:

- Helm, D. (2005). Economic instruments and environmental policy. *Economic and social review*, 36(3).

Week 5: 30/10/2025

Environmental policy III: information and participation

Instructor: Sergio Villamayor-Tomas

This session will explore policy tools to engage citizens, stakeholders, and communities in shaping environmental policy decisions. Cases covered will include, e.g., public consultations, stakeholder dialogues, deliberative forums, and collaborative planning and their applications in areas such as pollution control, resource management, and climate policy. The discussion will critically review the opportunities and challenges of participatory processes in ensuring legitimacy, inclusiveness, and effectiveness.

Required Reading:

- Bixler, R. P., Dell'Angelo, J., Mfunne, O., & Roba, H. (2015). The political ecology of participatory conservation: institutions and discourse. *Journal of Political Ecology*, 22(1), 164-182.

Optional Reading:

- Newig, J., Challies, E., Jager, N. W., Kochskaemper, E., & Adzersen, A. (2018). The environmental performance of participatory and collaborative governance: A framework of causal mechanisms. *Policy Studies Journal*, 46(2), 269-297.

***ASSESSMENT DETAILS:** For the two first sessions there will be a short in-class assignment based on the mandatory readings and the in-class materials.

Week 6: 04/11/2025

Private actors in public policy: efficiency and effectiveness

Instructor: Daniel Edmiston

Blending the values, knowledge and skills of the private, public and third sectors, considerable efforts have been made to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public policy through quasi-marketisation and welfare pluralism. But what substantive possibilities and risks do these actually present? To answer this question, these sessions will explore the case of payment by results contracts in active labour market policy, and the role of private capital in social impact bonds to better understand the role of private actors and finance in public policy.

Required Reading:

- Lewis, P. A. (2017) Quasi-markets: An overview and analysis. Available at: [\[PDF\] ssrn.com](#)

Week 6: 06/11/2025

Welfare pluralism: design and implementation

Instructor: Daniel Edmiston

Required Reading:

- Edmiston, D., and Nicholls, A. (2018) Social Impact Bonds: The role of private capital in outcome-based commissioning. *Journal of Social Policy*, 47(1), 57-76.

Week 7: 11/11/2025

The politics of abortion: public health or the divine commandment?

Instructor: Marga León

Abortion has always been considered a morality policy in countries with strong presence of a state/church cleavage. Over the last decades however, abortion has increasingly been politicized even in countries where abortion was legal and politically non-contentious. In this session we will look at the politics of abortion and the determinants for the different national legal frameworks.

Required Reading and Watching:

- Reversing Roe (documentary available at Netflix)
- Engeli, Isabelle, Green-Pedersen, C. and T.Larsen, Lars (2013) The puzzle of permissiveness: Understanding Policy Processes concerning Morality Issues, *Journal of European Public Policy*, 20:3, 335-52

Additional Readings:

- Hansalbin Sältenberg, Silvia Díaz Fernández & Paloma Caravantes (2024): Two Gender-Equal Nations? Anti-Gender Re-Configurations of National Belonging in Sweden and Spain, *NORA - Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Research*
- Mikenberg, M. (2002) 'Religion and Public Policy: Institutional, Cultural, and Political. Impact on the Shaping of Abortion Policies in Western Democracies'. *Comparative Political Studies*, vol. 35, no. 2, pp. 221-247
- Christoph Knill, Caroline Preidel & Kerstin Nebel (2014) Brake rather than Barrier: The Impact of the Catholic Church on Morality Policies in Western Europe, *West European Politics*, 37:5, 845-866,
- Htun, Mala and Weldon, L. (2010) When do Governments Promote Women's Rights? A Framework for the Comparative Analysis of Sex Equality Policy A Comparative Politics of Gender Vol. 8/1
- León, M., Alvarino, M., & Soler-Buades, L. (2022). Explaining Morality Policy Coalitions in Spanish Parliamentary Votes: The Interaction of the Church-State Conflict and Territorial Politics. *South European Society and Politics*, 0(0), 1–26. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13608746.2022.2132614>

Week 7: 13/11/2025**Who cares? Defining and Regulating Sex Trade**

Instructor: Marga León

The aim of this session is to critically analyse the core challenges in regulating prostitution from a multi-level governance perspective. We will deconstruct the foundational adversarial framing of the issue, contrasting the ‘sex work’ and ‘prostitution as violence’ paradigms that underpin political and scholarly debate. The session will then map and evaluate the primary regulatory models—from prohibition and abolition to decriminalisation and legalisation. Finally, we will interrogate the limitations of nation-state approaches by examining the necessity for, and challenges of, developing a coherent supranational legal framework to address the inherently transnational nature of the sex industry.

Required Readings:

- Nussbaum, M. (1998) ‘Whether from Reason or Prejudice’: Taking Money for Bodily Services’ *The Journal of Legal Studies* Vol 27 (2): 693-723
- [Report from the European Parliament](#)
- Di Nicola [Regulation Prostitution Report](#)

Additional Reading:

- Nancy Whittier (2022) Rethinking Coalitions: Anti-Pornography Feminists, Conservatives, and Relationships between Collaborative Adversarial Movements
- Lanau, Alba and Matolcsi, Andrea (2024) Prostitution and Sex Work, Who Counts? Mapping Local Data to Inform Policy and Service Provision. *Social Policy & Society*
- Wagenaar, H., Altink, S. and Amesberger, H. (2017) *Designing Prostitution Policy: Intention and Reality in Regulating the Sex Trade*, Bristol: Policy Press.

***ASSESSMENT DETAILS:** For the two sessions in week 7 there will be a short in-class assignment based on the core readings (and film).

Week 8: 18/11/2025**Beyond asset-based welfare: the return of the rental housing question**

Instructor: Lorenzo Vidal

This session examines the role of housing within welfare state regimes, focusing on the limitations of homeownership as a form of asset-based welfare and its implications. As the era of mass homeownership recedes in many countries, the private rental market has resurged, bringing renewed debates over its regulation. At the centre of these debates lies one of the most contested policy instruments: rent price controls.

Required Reading:

- Malpass, P (2008): Housing and the New Welfare State: Wobbly Pillar or Cornerstone?, *Housing Studies*, 23(1): 1-19

- Marsh A, Gibb K, Soaita AM (2023) Rent regulation: Unpacking the debates. *International Journal of Housing Policy* 23(4): 734–757.

Recommended reading:

- Arnott R (1995) Time for revisionism on rent control? *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 9(1): 99–120.
- Kholodilin, Konstantin A. (2024) Rent control effects through the lens of empirical research: An almost complete review of the literature. *Journal of Housing Economics*. 63. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhe.2024.101983>
- Moreno Zacarés, J. (2024). Residential Accumulation: A Political Economy Framework. *Housing, Theory and Society*, 41(1), 4–26.
- Montgomerie, J. & Büdenbender, M. (2015). Round the houses: Homeownership and failures of asset-based welfare in the United Kingdom. *New Political Economy*, 20(3), 386–405.
- Slater, T. (2021). From displacements to rent control and housing justice. *Urban Geography*, 42(5), 701–712.

Week 8: 20/11/2025

Affordable housing provision: models and histories

Instructor: Lorenzo Vidal

The contemporary housing crisis has revived fundamental questions about the role of the state in providing affordable housing. This session surveys the historical development of social housing and explores the diverse models of affordable housing provision, ranging from direct public delivery to partnerships with non-profit and for-profit actors.

Required reading:

- Blackwell, T., & Bengtsson, B. (2021). The resilience of social rental housing in the United Kingdom, Sweden and Denmark. How institutions matter. *Housing Studies*, 38(2), 269–289.
- Canelas, P.; & Alves, S. (2024) The governance of affordable housing through public-private partnerships: Critical entanglements. *Land Use Policy*. 143. 107193
- Ferreri, M., & Vidal, L. (2021). Public-cooperative policy mechanisms for housing commons. *International Journal of Housing Policy*, 22(2), 149–173.

Recommended reading:

- Kockelkorn, A., Schindler, S. & Hirschberg, R. (2024) Cooperative Conditions: A Primer on Architecture, Finance and Regulation in Zurich. Zurich: gta Verlag. Available at: https://verlag.gta.arch.ethz.ch/en/gta:book_18ba045c-58f9-4439-af51-04a621ec6bfa

- Harloe, M. (1995) *The Peoples' Home? Social Rented Housing in Europe & America* (Oxford: Blackwell).
- Malpass, P. (2014). Histories of social housing: a comparative approach. In K. Scanlon, C. Whitehead & M. Fernández Arrigoitia (Eds.), *Social housing in Europe*, pp. 255-274. John Wiley & Sons.
- Wainwright, T., & Manville, G. (2016). Financialization and the third sector: Innovation in social housing bond markets. *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*, 49(4), 819-838.
- Wijburg, G., Waldron, R., & Corre, T. Le. (2024). Financialising affordable housing? For-profit landlords and the marketisation of socially responsible investment in rental housing. *Finance and Space*, 1(1), 124–143.

***ASSESSMENT DETAILS:** Take-home individual short essay addressing the themes of the week 8 sessions. Details will be provided in class.

Week 9: 25/11/2025 **Social security policy: street-level bureaucracy and accountability**

Instructor: Daniel Edmiston

In these sessions, we will explore how social security policies are shaped and implemented through a network of actors, both *upstream* (policymakers) and *downstream* (service users). We will examine the role of street-level bureaucrats in shaping policy outcomes, and particularly how discretion impact can impact service delivery. Accountability for both policy success and failure will be critically assessed by thinking through acts of commission and omission in public and social policy and the important role of discretion across the policy lifecycle. We will also explore whether social security policies ‘work’ by drawing on the ‘expertise’ of individuals actually affected, underlining the real-world impact of bureaucratic actions.

Required Reading:

- Brodtkin, E. Z. (2013). Street-level organizations and the welfare state. In E. Z. Brodtkin & G. Marston(Eds.), *Work and the welfare state: Street-level organizations and workfare politics* (pp. 17–34). Georgetown University Press.

Week 9: 27/11/2025 **Social security policy: street-level bureaucracy and accountability**

Instructor: Daniel Edmiston

Required Reading:

- Edmiston, D., Robertshaw, D., Young, D., Ingold, J., Gibbons, A., Summers, K., ... & de Vries, R. (2022). Mediating the claim? How ‘local ecosystems of support’ shape the operation and experience of UK social security. *Social Policy & Administration*, 56(5), 775-790.

Week 10: 02/12/2025
accountability

Social security policy: street-level bureaucracy and

Instructor: Daniel Edmiston

Required Reading:

- Wright, S. (2012). Welfare-to-work, agency and personal responsibility. *Journal of Social Policy*, 41, 2, 309–328.

***ASSESSMENT DETAILS:** Drawing on the academic literature and policy documentation covered in week 9 of the module, students will work in groups to prepare a presentation in advance of this session. Students will draw on a real-world case study to answer the following questions: what are the risks and opportunities associated with street-level bureaucracy? How does the answer to this question according to different stakeholders in the policymaking process. Students will be assigned to groups in advance to allow coordination of work.

Week 10: 04/12/2025
priorities

Poverty and inequality in Europe: policy progress and

Instructor: Daniel Edmiston

Within political and academic debate, the terms ‘poverty’ and ‘inequality’ are sometimes used interchangeably when talking about the differential life outcomes and opportunities of individuals and communities. In this session, we will explore how poverty and inequality – as distinctive phenomena – are framed across different European welfare regimes and within EU policy frameworks. We will analyse evidence on poverty trends, highlighting successful anti-poverty interventions across Europe. We will also discuss ongoing legislative agendas aimed at reducing poverty and inequality and identify areas where public reforms could prove most transformative.

Required Reading:

- Baiocco, S., Bontout, B., Horn, R., Ligonnet, B. (2024) Economic inequalities in the EU, Luxembourg: European Commission. Available at:
<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=8640&furtherPubs=yes>

Other recommended readings

- Baker, T., & Davis, C. (2018). Everyday resistance to workfare: Welfare beneficiary advocacy in Auckland, New Zealand, *Social Policy and Society*, 17(4): 535–546.
- Barbieri, N., Gallego, R., Morales, E., Muñoz, C., Quintana, B. (2021). “Facilitators and challenges of community action for health. Comparative analysis of four case studies in neighbourhoods of Barcelona”; (First published online 2019). *Policy Studies*, 42(3), 271-288.

- Barbieri, N.; Gallego, R.; Morales, E.; Rodríguez-Sanz, M.; Palència, L.; Pasarín, M.I. (2018). “Measuring and Analysing Community Action for Health: An Indicator-Based Typology and Its Application to the Case of Barcelona”. *Social Indicators Research*, 139:25–45. (First published online 2017).
- Burnham, P. (2014). Depoliticisation: economic crisis and political management. *Policy & Politics*, 42(2), 189-206.
- Carter, E., & Whitworth, A. (2015). Creaming and parking in quasi-marketised welfare-to-work schemes: designed out of or designed in to the UK work programme? *Journal of Social Policy*, 44(2), 277-296.
- Gallego, R. (Dir.) (2019). *Estudi comparatiu: Models de provisió de cures a les persones i support a la llar* (Edition in Spanish: *Estudio comparativo: Modelos de provisión de cuidados a las personas y apoyo en el hogar*). Col·lecció Estudis Temps i Cures. Barcelona: Ajuntament de Barcelona. http://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/tempsicures/sites/default/files/estudi_comparatiu_cat_0.pdf
- Gallego, R., & Maestripieri, L. (2022). “La innovación social en los cuidados 0-3: Entre la desigualdad y la equidad en las políticas públicas”. *Papers: Revista de Sociologia*, 107(3), e 3060: 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.5565/rev/papers.3060>
- Gallego, R., & Raya, J.M. (Dirs.) (2022). “Yes We Rent! Impact evaluation summary” by Vidal, L, Bianchi, I.; Cruz, H.; Hernández-Pizarro, H.; Llaneza, C. <https://www.uia-initiative.eu/fr/uia-cities/mataro>
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