

## Syllabus

### Course description

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Economic policy</b>
<b>Course code</b>	<b>27401</b>
<b>Scientific sector</b>	SECS-P/02
<b>Degree</b>	Master in public policies and administration
<b>Semester and academic year</b>	1st semester 2020/2021
<b>Year</b>	1
<b>Credits</b>	6
<b>Modular</b>	No

<b>Total lecturing hours</b>	36
<b>Total lab hours</b>	6
<b>Total exercise hours</b>	24 (preparatory course)
<b>Attendance</b>	suggested, but not required

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Students without a background in Economics are strongly suggested to actively attend the "preparatory course" in Economics organized at the beginning of the semester.</p> <p>At the end of the prep course, an exam will be organized, in order to test the basic knowledge of the students. The test is aimed at making students aware of their knowledge. There are no negative consequences in case of "fail", only the student is advised to discuss with the Lecturing Assistant and the Professor how to improve his/her knowledge. In case of "pass with distinction", students are awarded an additional point in the final exam.</p>
----------------------	---

<b>Course page</b>	<a href="https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/master-public-sector/course-offering/">https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/master-public-sector/course-offering/</a>
--------------------	---

<b>Specific educational objectives</b>	<p>The course refers to the basic educational activities and belongs to the scientific area of Economics.</p> <p>The course gives a general overview of the economic policies pursued by the public sector on a scientific basis.</p> <p>Educational objectives are: acquiring skills to explain economic policies as they vary over time and between countries, as well as developing an understanding of the constraints of implementing economic policies in democratic societies.</p>
--	---

<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>Mirco Tonin</b> , Office E-306, e-mail: Mirco.Tonin@unibz.it, tel.: 0471/013182, <a href="https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/35916-mirco-tonin">https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/35916-mirco-tonin</a>
<b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b>	SECS-P/02
<b>Teaching language</b>	English
<b>Office hours</b>	please refer to the lecturer's web page
<b>Lecturing assistant</b>	<b>Alessandro Fedele</b> (12 h preparatory course)
<b>Teaching assistant</b>	not foreseen
<b>Office hours</b>	not foreseen
<b>List of topics covered</b>	Size and development of the public sector; Public policy tools; Behavioral public policy; Public goods; Externalities; Political economics; Cost-benefit analysis; Economic policies;
<b>Teaching format</b>	Frontal lectures, exercises, projects, etc.

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>Through this course the students will develop the ability to understand the foundations, the effects and uses of government interventions in the economy.</p> <p><b>Knowledge and understanding:</b> The students will learn different theories and the empirical evidence regarding the tools and effects of government interventions in the economy.</p> <p><b>Applying knowledge and understanding:</b> The students will develop the ability to apply the analytical methods presented to real world economic policy problems</p> <p><b>Making judgments:</b> The students will develop the ability to assess economic situations, to relate them to concrete problems, and to develop policy recommendations.</p> <p><b>Communication skills:</b> Through discussions in class, the students will develop the ability to debate economic policy problems using appropriate analytical tools and evidence.</p> <p><b>Learning skills:</b> Ability to develop learning skills that allow students to continue to study at an advanced level.</p>
--------------------------	--

<b>Assessment</b>	Written and project work: written exam with review questions and project report done in groups
<b>Assessment language</b>	English
<b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b>	70% written exam, 30% project report & presentation. 100% written exam for non-attending

	<p>students.</p> <p>Evaluation criteria relevant for both assessments: clarity of answers, mastery of specific terminology, ability to summarize, evaluate, and establish relationships between topics, ability to apply concepts to real-world examples.</p>
<b>Required readings</b>	<p>Public Finance and Public Policy, by Jonathan Gruber, 5th edition – Selected chapters ISBN: 1464143331</p> <p>Economic Policy - Theory and Practice, by Agnès Bénassy-Quéré, Benoît Coeuré, Pierre Jacquet, and Jean Pisani-Ferry – Selected chapters ISBN: 9780195322736</p> <p>Intermediate Public Economics, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, by Jean Hindriks and Gareth Myles – Selected chapters ISBN: 9780262018692</p>
<b>Supplementary readings</b>	<p>Additional literature will be given during class</p>