

# Syllabus Course description

Course title	Accounting for the Public Sector
Course code	27607
Scientific sector	SECS-P/07
Degree	LM63 Public Policies and Administration
Semester and academic year	2nd semester 2024/2025
Year	1
Credits	6
Modular	No

Total lecturing hours	36
Total lab hours	-
Total exercise hours	10
Teaching assistant	TBA
Attendance	suggested, but not required
Prerequisites	
Course page	https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics- management/master-public-policies-administration/

Specific educational objectives	The course refers to the typical educational activities and gives a general overview of scientific and practice contents in the area of Business Administration.
	The course adopts an approach that enhances the study of management from both theoretical and practical perspectives, with a special focus on local authorities. Additionally, the course explores the fundamental characteristics of Italian public administrations by examining their primary managerial and organizational processes. Specifically, it delves deeply into the new harmonized accounting, as well as the programming, budgeting, and control systems, and social accountability, all with particular emphasis on local authorities

Part 1	
Lecturer	Alberto Romolini (12 lect. hours) https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics- management/academic-staff/person/37145-alberto- romolini
Scientific sector of the lecturer	SECS-P/07
Teaching language	Italian
Office hours	6 hours  MySNS – Individual timetable  Webpage:  https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&depar



	<u>tment=26&amp;degree=13426%2C13543</u>
List of topics covered	This part of the course analyzes:  • the fundamental elements of public administrations' studies and their management principles;  • the services, characteristics and specificity of public management;  • the accounting harmonization of public administrations;  • the cash and accrual accounting;  • the programming of budgetary system.
Teaching format	Frontal lectures and case studies

Part 2	
Lecturer	Elena Gori (12 lect. hours) <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/37146-elena-gori">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/37146-elena-gori</a>
Scientific sector of the lecturer	SECS- P/07
Teaching language	Italian
Office hours	6 hours MySNS – Individual timetable Webpage: <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&amp;department=26&amp;degree=13426%2C13543">https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&amp;department=26&amp;degree=13426%2C13543</a>
List of topics covered	This part of the course analyzes:  • the management and accounting system of local authorities;  • the budgetary system;  • the cash bases of accounting;  • the reporting system.
Teaching format	Frontal lectures and case studies

Part 3	
Lecturer	Silvia Fissi (12 lect. hours) <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/37144-silvia-fissi">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/37144-silvia-fissi</a>
Scientific sector of the lecturer	SECS-P/07
Teaching language	Italian
Office hours	6 hours MySNS – Individual timetable Webpage: <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&amp;department=26&amp;degree=13426%2C13543">https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&amp;department=26&amp;degree=13426%2C13543</a>
List of topics covered	<ul> <li>This part analyses:</li> <li>the sustainability reporting system;</li> <li>the internal and external auditing;</li> <li>the local public group and the consolidated financial statement;</li> <li>the digitalization of the public administration: strategy and tools.</li> </ul>
Teaching format	Frontal lectures and case studies



### **Learning outcomes**

#### **Knowledge and understanding:**

Students know the key concepts in the area of public accounting. This enables them to properly understand current developments in the field of local authorities.

#### Applying knowledge and understanding:

The student will be able to apply their knowledge to understand how decisions on public expenditures are made at various levels. Moreover, the student will be able to properly assess the consequences of these decisions—such as those affecting expenses and public property—particularly from the perspective of local authority management.

## Making judgments:

Students will have the ability to assess the formation of public financial decisions, interpret relevant financial documents, and understand their legal frameworks. They will also be able to analyze and evaluate new and updated data in media, such as journals or newspapers, and contextualize them within a broader management framework.

#### **Communication skills:**

The student will be able to communicate their conclusions on public financial decisions clearly and effectively, along with the underlying knowledge and rationale, to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

#### **Learning skills:**

Students develop interpretive skills to analyze future developments in public financial decisions.

Assessment	For attending students:
	<ol> <li>Project work conducted in groups, including an oral presentation and discussion in the classroom.</li> <li>Final written exam consisting of 30 multiple-choice questions: maximum 30 points (each correct answer earns 1 point).</li> </ol>
	Project work and classroom contributions are valid for 1 academic year and cannot be carried over beyond that time-frame.
	For non-attending students Final written examination consisting of 30 multiple-choice questions: maximum of 30 points (each correct answer awards 1 point).
Assessment language	Italian
Evaluation criteria and	For attending students, the final mark is the sum of final



criteria for awarding marks	written exam (60%) and project work (40%).
	For non-attending students, the final grade is solely based on the written exam covering the entire syllabus.
	Key aspects of the written exam include: the ability to summarize topics and problems, evaluate and establish relationships between topics, and the ability to paraphrase concepts in one's own words.  Key aspects of project work include: teamwork skills,
	creativity, mastery of language (including the language of instruction), and critical thinking skills.
Required readings	Part 1: Mussari R., Economia delle amministrazioni pubbliche, McGrawHill, 2017, chapters 1 e 3 Anselmi L., Pozzoli S. (a cura di), Le aziende pubbliche. Aspetti di governance, gestione, misurazione, valutazione e rendicontazione, FrancoAngeli, 2019, chapter 11 (paragraphs 11.1 and 11.2)
	Part 2: Mussari R., Economia delle amministrazioni pubbliche, McGrawHill, 2017, chapter 5 (paragraphs 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.4.1, 5.5, 5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.5.3, 5.6, 5.7 and 5.8) Anselmi L., Pozzoli S. (a cura di), Le aziende pubbliche. Aspetti di governance, gestione, misurazione, valutazione e rendicontazione, FrancoAngeli, 2019, chapters 10 (paragraphs 10.1, 10.1.1, 10.1.2, 10.1.4, 10.2, 10.2.1, 10.2.2 and 10.2.3), 11 (paragraphs 11.3, 11.4 and 11.5) and 12
	Part 3: Mussari R., Economia delle amministrazioni pubbliche, McGrawHill, 2017, chapter 7 Anselmi L., Pozzoli S. (a cura di), Le aziende pubbliche. Aspetti di governance, gestione, misurazione, valutazione e rendicontazione, FrancoAngeli, 2019, chapters 14, 15 and 20
	For each module specific slides, materials and case studies.
Supplementary readings	Students interesting in development public accounting issues can consult:  Pollitt C., Bouckaert G. (2017), Public management reform: a comparative analysis – Into the age of austerity, Oxford, Oxford University Press.  Cucciniello M., Fattore G., Longo F., Ricciuti E., Turrini A. (2018), Management pubblico, Milano, Egea.