esade

Public Policies Evaluation

UGRA_016133

Departments	Department of Society, Politics and Sustainability, Global Governance
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	6
Teacher responsible	Daniel Hywell Nicholls - danielhywell.nicholls@esade.edu

Course Goals

Familiarise students with processes through which public policies are designed, implemented and assessed. To understand how public policies fit in with governance more generally and rights, distribution and justice.

Previous knowledge

No previous knowledge is required

Prerequisits

There are no prereuisites

Teaching methodology

The course has been divided into 10 thematic sections. For each section there will be lectures delivered by the course lecturer as well as case-study activities for students to carry out on particular areas of public policy (policy design, policy evaluation, policy comparison, application of theories to cases) during class. These exercises must be uploaded to the course Moodle. They will not be graded as such, but participation in, and engagement with, these activities will count towards students' participation grade.

Description

Course contribution to program

The course helps students to understand governance through an examination of the interactions between political and societal actors.

Short description

The course provides a theoretical and practical examination of public policies, looking at various models of public policy design, implementation and evaluation. Crucially, the course helps us to understand the role of public policies in producing social stability and outcomes which underwrite the social contract.

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Bibliography

Cairney, Paul, Understanding Public Policy: Theories and Issues, Bloomsbury (Book)

Hassel , Anke & Wegrich, Kai, How to Do Public Policy, OUP (Book)

Hill, Michael & Varone, Frédéric, The Public Policy Process, Taylor and Francis

Knill, Christoph & Tosun, Jale, Public Policy: A New Introduction, Bloomsbury (Book)

Content

#	Topic
1	1. Setting the Scene What is Public Policy? Why study public policy? Public policy and the social contract Polanyi and redistributive policy Public policy, politics and polity Key actors – superstructure & engine room; private actors; policy networks; NGOs; International Organisations; regional government authorities; street-level bureaucrats Policy tools – regulation, incentives, information, direct service provision, nudges Self-regulation and co-regulation Case study: Charging VAT on private schools
2	2. Superstructure and Engine Room Aims and limits of the superstructure Dynamics of the engine room The iron triangle Intersectoral rivalry Structural, situational and procedural channels Case study: Increasing fertility
3	3. Institutional Context Unicameral and bi-cameral systems Federalism Theories of institutions Public policy and social contract theory Public policy in clientelistic and programmatic regimes Public policy and selectorate theory Log rolling Bureaucratic slack Electoral systems and economic policy Case study: Chips Act
4	4. Policy Theories Comprehensive and bounded rationality Behaviouralism Policy cycle Top-down Vs bottom-up approaches Garbage Can/ Multiple Streams approach Multilevel governance Actor Coalition Framework and the status quo Punctuated equilibrium and change Case study: Improving educational results within PISA
5	5. Power & Ideas Narrative and framing Viruses, norms, ideologies & world views Neo-Gramscian approaches National values and PP Agenda setting Social construction of target group Reserve ideas & public policy Think-tanks and public policy Institutionalisation of ideas Case study: Sex work
6	6. Doing Public Policy Evidence based policy design Design thinking Choosing a tool Consultation Programme theory Positive and negative inducements Problem definition – morality, equity, welfare and the commons Perverse incentives Case study: Gilets Jaunes
7	7. Implementing Public Policy Administrative machinery Target population response Flexibility and compliance Benchmarking and performance targets Forbearance & counterimplementation Vertical follow-through and horizontal coordination Enforcement, activation and conflict management Implementation deficits Case study: Immigration policy
8	8. Lobbying & Public Policy in the EU Institutional context Types of frame Upstream lobbying Public consultations Transparency Baptist & bootlegger coalitions Case study: Inner-city crime
9	9. Global Governance and Public Policy Transnational problems and national regulations Policy transfer International organisations Deliberation & diffusion International agreements Global institutional and ideational structures Transnational advocacy networks Polycentric governance Neoliberal governance and ideological policy Globalisation, external

#	Topic
9	policy pressure and social cohesion Case study: Climate change
10	10. Foreign policy and grand strategy Identity and role Regime type Alliances and dependencies Neighbourhood and geography Defence-offence balance Institutions, regimes and orders Power Trade Militarism Domestic pressure groups Case study: Constraining China

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Individual or team exercises	Participation	Retake and ordinary round	10.00%
Other	Policy evaluation activity	Retake and ordinary round	20.00%
Quizzes/tests	Multiple choice test	Retake and ordinary round	10.00%
Written and/or oral exams	Final exam	Retake and ordinary round	60.00%

PROGRAMS

G114-Global Governance Exchange Program (Undergraduates: Law)
G114 Year 1 (Optative)

G114S-Global Governance Exchange Program (Undergraduates: Law)
G114S Year 1 (Optative)