



STUDY PROGRAMME

ECO-EPPA + POL-EPPA

ACADEMIC YEAR

2020 - 2021

SEMESTER

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COURSE TITLE

Policy Analysis and Evaluation

COURSE PROFESSOR

Lorna SCHREFLER & Raúl MURIEL CARRASCO

COURSE ASSISTANT

Sisi ZHANG

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL)

COMPULSORY

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

ENGLISH

ECTS CREDITS

4.5

1. COURSE OBJECTIVE

The main objective of this course is to provide students with an advanced knowledge of how public policies are designed and evaluated. Students will learn about better regulation and its key tools, and acquire transferable skills on impact assessment and ex-post policy evaluation. The approach taken in the course is interdisciplinary, and Students will learn to combine reasoning from political and economic angles in order to critically approach real-life cases.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, the Students should be able to:

- Explain why better regulation policies are adopted by governments, their intended objectives, common challenges and limitations, particularly in an EU context;
- Understand the logic, advantages and limitations of tools (e.g. stakeholder consultation) and methods (e.g. cost-benefit analysis) involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation of public policies;
- Apply transferable skills on impact assessment and ex-post evaluation.

The learning outcomes for this course tie in with the following learning outcomes for the European Economic Studies programme:

– *For ECO-EPPA students*

1. Describe, explain and illustrate core economic theory and selected policies related to economic integration;
2. Understand the normative assumptions, implications and limitations of economic theory and economic policy making;
3. Use economic theory to assess current problems and policies;



4. Learn how to acquire relevant information in related disciplines (law, political science);
5. Describe, explain and illustrate the core normative assumptions, implications and limitations of legal theory and political science theory related to economics;
6. Use their knowledge of economics, legal principles and political science to analyse problems in law or political science.

– For POL-EPPA students

1. Students have a general knowledge of the main components of the EU political system: institutions, actors, decision-making procedures, competences and policies;
2. Students comprehend the disciplinary knowledge and theories specific to EU studies;
3. Students develop a concrete understanding of the logics of policy-making and negotiations within the EU political system, thanks to simulation exercises and the drafting of policy papers;
4. Students can analyse the process and actors of EU policy-making at different levels of governance and can reflect on potential developments.

3. COURSE CONTENTS

Analysing public policy starts with definitions and concepts, to establish a common understanding of the unit of analysis. The introductory lecture will thus clarify the concepts of “policy” and “policy analysis”. We will then move on to the evolution of “better regulation” policy in the EU and the current model of integrated impact assessment of major proposed initiatives. This will allow us apply this general approach to specific EU policy initiatives and develop practical and transferable skills in the area of policy formulation and assessment. Prior to going in-depth into ex-post evaluation, students will be introduced to mid-term and final evaluation. Then, we will revise the different methodological approaches to ex-post evaluation of EU institutions but also of relevant international organisations. We will also analyse real examples of terms of reference of the European Commission. Finally, we will reflect on the role of ethics and integrity in public policy evaluation.

4. TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lectures with class participation.

5. COURSE MATERIAL

Lecture notes and readings.

6. EVALUATION

The evaluation will be based on

- a. A closed-book written exam (90% of the grade): two hours in length with two questions, one per Professor. The two questions carry the same weight. The questions will be either theoretical essay-type questions or in the form of practical cases.
- b. Class participation (10% of the grade).

For second examination session: the resit examination is written and counts for 100% of the mark.



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ECTS CARD

The College of Europe reserves the right to change the delivery and assessment of the course in case of restrictions related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Any communication from the Department in this regard takes precedence over the information provided in this ECTS card.