# COURSE DETAIL

| DEMOCRACY AND PUBLIC POLICYMAKING |
| --- |
| **Country**<br>Italy |
| **Host Institution**<br>University of Commerce Luigi Bocconi |
| **Program(s)**<br>Bocconi University |
| **UCEAP Course Level**<br>Upper Division |
| **UCEAP Subject Area(s)**<br>Political Science |
| **UCEAP Course Number**<br>126 |
| **UCEAP Course Suffix** |
| **UCEAP Official Title**<br>DEMOCRACY AND PUBLIC POLICYMAKING |
| **UCEAP Transcript Title**<br>DEMOCRCY&PUB POLICY |
| **UCEAP Quarter Units**<br>6.00 |
| **UCEAP Semester Units**<br>4.00 |

**Course Description**

This course examines tensions between the process of public policy making and democratic values. The course reviews both democratic theory and the policy process, and addresses two important questions. The course is divided into two main sections to address these two questions. The first section of concerns the question of how representative government functions when those who implement public policy have the authority to reshape democracy. The focus is on policy formation, policy implementation, and the tension between the goals, as well as the democratic values important in each stage. To address this question students study the theory of democracy, and examine the tensions between two major approaches to it: popular accountability through selection and the sanction of representatives, and deliberative democracy. Students therefore catalog a set of democratic values important to making and implementing policy. The course then develops a framework for evaluating the democratic consequences of various elements of the policy process. Specifically, the framework aims to assess when the accountability and process values of representative democracy are enhanced or obviated by particular structures for making and implementing policies. Students employ their framework to analyze cases in various contexts. The second part of the course applies the above framework to examine the question of how contemporary forms of implementing public policy strengthen or weaken tension with democratic values. In particular, emphasis is given to reforms informed by managerialist ideas and principles of competition and accountability for results, and by ideas of citizens' and private actors' involvement in government and principles of transparency and collaboration/partnership. The course explores some innovative trends in government including evidence-based policy, behaviorally-informed policies (i.e. nudging), policy experimentalism, and policy evaluation, and critically assess these trends with respect to the values of representative democracy. In each lecture, concrete examples of these trends drawn from current events are discussed. There is a written mid-term and final exam.

**Language(s) of Instruction**

English

**Host Institution Course Number**

20635

**Host Institution Course Title**
DEMOCRACY AND PUBLIC POLICYMAKING

**Host Institution Course Details**

**Host Institution Campus**
University of Commerce Luigi Bocconi

**Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**
Social and Political Sciences

**Course Last Reviewed**

Print