COURSE DETAIL

PUBLIC ECONOMICS

Country
United Kingdom - England

Host Institution
London School of Economics

Program(s)
London School of Economics

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Economics

UCEAP Course Number
120

UCEAP Course Suffix
Y

UCEAP Official Title
PUBLIC ECONOMICS

UCEAP Transcript Title
PUBLIC ECONOMICS

UCEAP Quarter Units
12.00

UCEAP Semester Units

8.00

Course Description

The first part of the course focuses on the foundations of public economics. The course introduces classical theories concerning equity, efficiency, and the rationales for government intervention in the economy. Students discuss market failure in the context of public goods and externalities, including environmental policy. They also discuss problems of public choice and political economics, and the implications of recent research in behavioral economics for policymaking. Students also study modern empirical methods that are used to evaluate the causal effects of public policies. The second part of the fall term considers social insurance policies, including unemployment insurance, disability insurance, retirement pensions, and public health insurance. Students study the economic rationale for government intervention in social insurance and the optimal type and extent of interventions, and they relate this to empirical evidence on the causal effects of changes in social insurance policies. In the spring term, the course is devoted to tax and transfer programs. The course begins by examining the incentive effects of taxes and transfers on labor supply, and then goes on to consider migration, tax avoidance, and tax evasion. As inequality is a key input to tax and transfer policy, we critically examine the measurement of and trends over time in income and wealth inequality in various countries. We look at the effect of taxation on economic efficiency and explore the optimal taxation of commodities and income. Finally, we consider questions of tax administration and apply them in a developing country context.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
EC325

Host Institution Course Title
PUBLIC ECONOMICS

Host Institution Course Details

https://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar2022-2023/courseGuides/EC/2022_EC325.htm

Host Institution Campus
London School of Economics

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Economics

Course Last Reviewed
2022-2023

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