COURSE DETAIL

GOVERNMENT AND BEHAVIOR: THE USE OF BEHAVIORAL INSIGHTS IN AND BY GOVERNMENTS

Country
Netherlands

Host Institution
Utrecht University

Program(s)
Utrecht University

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Political Science

UCEAP Course Number
143

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title
GOVERNMENT AND BEHAVIOR: THE USE OF BEHAVIORAL INSIGHTS IN AND BY GOVERNMENTS

UCEAP Transcript Title
GOVERNANCE&BEHAVIOR

UCEAP Quarter Units
6.00

UCEAP Semester Units
4.00

Course Description

This course follows the approach that citizens are ‘predictably irrational’ (Ariely 2008). This model of human behavior has consequences for how governments can and should steer society. A behavioral approach to government steering such as ‘nudging’ is explored in this course. Students explore what it means to take a behavioral approach to public administration, how it differs from traditional policy, and to what extent has a behavioral approach been taken up by governments already, and learn about opportunities and pitfalls of a behavioral approach. Questions about whether a behavioral approach is effective, appropriate, and ethical are discussed. Finally, the course explicitly studies the policy process that leads to ‘behavioral’ policies including the other actors, such as interest groups, and contextual factors, such as institutions, rules, and norms that influence this process. Theoretical knowledge, practical examples, guest lectures, field trips, discussions, debates, and presentations are used.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
USG4660

Host Institution Course Title
GOVERNMENT AND BEHAVIOUR: THE USE OF BEHAVIOURAL INSIGHTS IN AND BY GOVERNMENTS

Host Institution Course Details
https://osiris-student.uu.nl/#/onderwijscatalogus/extern/cursus

Host Institution Campus
Utrecht University

Host Institution Faculty

Law, Economics and Governance

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Course Last Reviewed
2023-2024

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