COURSE DETAIL

PUBLIC ECONOMICS: COMPLEXITY AND THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC FINANCE
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University – University College Utrecht
Program(s) University College Utrecht
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Economics
UCEAP Course Number 127
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title PUBLIC ECONOMICS: COMPLEXITY AND THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC FINANCE
UCEAP Transcript Title PUBLIC ECONOMICS
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

Public Economics is about how the public sectors that represent ‘the State’ promote the public interest. This course is situated in the context of democratic countries that rely mostly on free markets. It deals with practical or real-life aspects of public economics in confrontation with micro- and macro-economic theory. Over time, economic theories and models have become more specific and rigorous whereas social, political, and economic reality has become more multifaceted. The passing of time brings complexity to the world, both for the private market and that of the public sector. Part of this growing real-life complexity is due to the more ambitious role that governments tried to play since the last century, while part is due to choices made by governments themselves. Complexity has increased opportunities for abuses, rent-seeking, and for mistakes in policies. This complex reality with its ‘wicked problems’ makes it much more difficult for governments to (a) allocate resources, (b) redistribute income, (c) protect some incomes and influence, in various ways, the level of production, employment, prices, and economic activity appropriately to the economic theoretical standards. The goal of this course is to engage in this complex issue from the perspective of public economics, and from there to design a public finance solution to some wicked problem. Entry Requirements include courses in Micro or Macro Economics and Statistics.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
UCSSCECO31

Host Institution Course Title
PUBLIC ECONOMICS: COMPLEXITY AND THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC FINANCE

Host Institution Course Details
https://cursusplanner.uu.nl/Curriculum

Host Institution Campus University College Utrecht
Host Institution Faculty Social Sciences
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Economics
Course Last Reviewed 2024-2025

Print