

- Faculté des sciences économiques
- www.unine.ch/seco

Public Sector Economics (5ER2028)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Master en sciences économiques, orientation politique économique	Cours: 4 ph	écrit: 2 h	6

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante:

Prof. Alain Schönenberger
Institute of Economic Research
Rue Abram-Louis Breguet 2, CH-2000 NEUCHATEL
+41 (0) 32 718 14 34, Office 1.240 - alain.schoenenberger@unine.ch

Prof. Mehdi Farsi
Institute of Economic Research
Rue Abram-Louis Breguet 2, CH-2000 NEUCHATEL
+41 (0) 32 718 14 50, Office 1.236 - mehdi.farsi@unine.ch

Objectifs:

This course provides a theoretical and empirical perspective of the role of the state in the economy and the responses of individuals and firms to government policies. The main objective is to provide analytical tools to understand government budgeting, to deal with fiscal policy issues and to explain the government intervention in the working of private markets or the provision of goods and services. Graphical presentations, theoretical models and empirical examples will be used to present alternative means of financing public expenditure and enhancing the efficiency of government operations, to assess different consequences of government interventions, to identify what kind of interventions are the most desirable and to explain why some economic activities are undertaken in the public sector.

Contenu:

The course is divided into two sections. The first section presents the government budgeting mechanism as well as the organization and objectives of the public sector and its relations with the private sector in modern economies, while the second section deals with the theoretical foundations of government interventions and the analysis of microeconomic and behavioural effects on the functioning of the public sector. The course will cover the following topics:

- Foundations of public economics; equilibrium and efficiency
- Government expenditures and revenues
- Principles of government financing
- Public finance and budgetary indicators
- Rational government budgeting
- Multi-government public finance
- Provision of public goods
- Public good experiments
- Externalities and other sources of market failure
- Public choice and voting

Forme de l'évaluation:

2-hour written exam during the exam session at the end of the semester (100%).
Retake (August-September): 2-hour written exam (100%).

Documentation:

Main textbooks:

- Public Finance & Public Choice. Analytical Perspectives, Cullis, J. & Jones, Ph., 2009, Oxford University Press.
- Intermediate Public Economics, 2nd ed., J. Hindriks & G.D. Myles, 2013. MIT Press.
- Public Microeconomics: Efficiency and Equity in Public Policy. Silvestre, J., 2012. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.
- Public Finance in Theory and Practice, Musgrave, R.A. & Musgrave, P.B., 1989.

Further readings based on:

- Public Sector Economics, Tresch, R.W., 2008. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Policy and Choice: Public Finance Through the Lens of Behavioral Economics. Congdon, W.J., Kling, J.R. & Mullainathan, S., 2011. Brookings Institution.

- Faculté des sciences économiques
- www.unine.ch/seco

Public Sector Economics (5ER2028)

- Public Finance. An International Perspective, Joshua E. Greene, 2012. World Scientific Publishing
- Journal articles and extracts made available during the term.

Forme de l'enseignement:

Lectures: 4 hours per week
Office hours: on request by e-mail