

- Faculté des sciences économiques
- [www.unine.ch/seco](http://www.unine.ch/seco)

**Public Finance (5ER2016)**

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
<b>Master en sciences économiques, orientation politique économique</b>	<b>Cours: 2 ph</b>	<b>écrit: 2 h</b>	<b>3</b>

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

**Période d'enseignement:**

- Semestre Automne

**Equipe enseignante:**

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**Objectifs:**

The primary objective is to provide students with the tools, and the skills to use these tools, to understand the underlying concepts and theory in dealing with fiscal policy issues. The introductory part of the course defines general government and reviews briefly the concepts of government expenditures and revenues. It then examines the principles and the presentation of government finance and accounting, including financial indicators. The course also presents alternative means of financing expenditure and the different ways to enhance the efficiency of government operations through budgeting procedures. It moves on to analyse the problem of private provision of public goods. Some of the concepts and issues encountered will be finally examined in the context of multilevel government (e.g. debt brake).

**Contenu:**

- General Government Expenditures and Revenues (OECD, Switzerland)
- Public and non-profit organisations
- Principles of Government Accounting
- Rational Government Budgeting
- Public and private provision of public goods
- Multigovernment Public Finance
- Applications

\*subject to changes

The material referred to during the course and the ppt-presentations of the topics will be made available either on paper or electronically on the internet site Moodle:

<https://moodle.unine.ch/course/view.php?id=279>

**Forme de l'évaluation:**

2-hour written exam during the exam session  
Retake: 2-hour written exam during the exam session

No documents or connected objects are allowed during the exams. Any violation of these rules will be considered as fraud, leading to the withdrawal of unauthorized items and possibly exam failure.

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### **Documentation:**

There are many textbooks on public finance but with main focus on public economics. Some chapters deal with public expenditure and receipts as aggregate, including budgeting and debt issues, public sector growth, or fiscal federalism. In addition to the general textbooks, more specialised theoretical and empirical readings will be provided during the course including on macroeconomic aspects.

- Musgrave, Richard A. & Peggy B. Musgrave, *Public Finance in Theory and Practice*, International Student Edition, 5th edition, 1989.
- Rosen, Harvey S. & Gayer, Ted, *Public Finance*, McGraw-Hill International Edition. 9th edition 2010.
- Cullis, John & Jones, Philip, *Public Finance & Public Choice. Analytical Perspectives*, Oxford University Press, 3rd edition, 2009.
- OECD, *Government at a Glance 2011*, OCDE Publishing, Paris 2015 (also PDF online).  
[http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/governance/governmental-at-a-glance-2015\\_gov\\_glance-2015-en](http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/governance/governmental-at-a-glance-2015_gov_glance-2015-en)
- Greene, Joshua E., *Public Finance. An International Perspective*, World Scientific Publishing, 2012

### Useful References

- OECD, *Modernising Government. The Way Forward*, OECD Publishing 2005.
- Tanzi, vito & Schuknecht, Ludger, *Public Spending in the 20th Century, a Global Perspective*, Cambridge University Press 2000

### Readings

Students are asked to read for each topic one article or book excerpt provided during the course.

Journal articles and extracts made available during the term.

### **Pré-requis:**

None. N.B. Students who take this course as an elective have to make sure they possess the required minimal knowledge in economics and quantitative methods. No distinction will be made between MScECON students and others in terms of evaluation criteria.