

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

## Microeconomic Policy (5ER2028)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
<b>Master en économie appliquée</b>	<b>Cours: 4 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	6

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

### Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

### Equipe enseignante

Octavian Strîmbu, Visiting lecturer  
Institute of Economic Research, Université de Neuchâtel and Geneva School of Economics and Management, Université de Genève  
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### Objectifs

This course offers a theoretical perspective for policy analysis at the microeconomic level. The main objective is to provide analytical tools to explain various sources of market failure and to understand policy interventions in the working of markets. Microeconomic models will be used to understand the role of the state in a market economy and to explain why some economic activities are undertaken in the public sector. These theoretical findings in conjunction with results from behavioural economics and experiments are used to identify the individual responses to government policies and to evaluate different consequences of policy interventions. The course adopts a Problem Based Learning approach and combines theory with examples, discussions and group activities. At the end of this course students are expected to acquire the analytical capacity to identify relevant microeconomic policy measures and to assess the role of government interventions in a variety of contexts.

### Contenu

The course will cover the following topics:

- Principles of welfare economics; equilibrium and efficiency
- Provision of public goods
- Public good experiments
- Externalities and other sources of market failure
- Imperfect competition
- Asymmetry of information
- Public choice and voting

### Forme de l'évaluation

Final grade is based on a 2-hour written during the exam session at the end of the semester. Assignments and participation in class activities and discussions are rewarded by a bonus of up to 20% of the final grade.

Retake: 2-hour written exam during the exam session, with no bonus.

With the exception of a simple calculator 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.

### Documentation

Main textbooks:

- 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.
- The Microeconomics of Public Policy Analysis, Friedman, Lee S., Princeton University Press, 2002
- Policy and Choice: Public Finance Through the Lens of Behavioral Economics. Congdon, W.J., Kling, J.R. & Mullainathan, S., 2011. Brookings Institution.

Further readings based on journal articles and extracts made available during the term.

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**Forme de l'enseignement**

Lectures: 4 hours per week

Office hours: upon request by e-mail