

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

Microeconomic Policy (5ER2028)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Master en économie appliquée	Cours: 4 ph	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

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Contenu

While providing an overall view of public policy analysis and its economic tenets, the course will focus on analytical tools, in particular Cost-Benefit Analysis. The course will cover the following topics:

- Principles of welfare economics
- Equilibrium, efficiency and equity
- Ethical and economic concepts of policy analysis
- Tools of public policy analysis
- Provision of public goods
- Externalities and other sources of market failure
- Uncertainty and its impacts on policy decisions

Forme de l'évaluation

Final grade is based on a 2-hour written during the exam session at the end of the semester. Written assignments and class presentations are rewarded by a bonus added to 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:

- The Economic Analysis of Public Policy, 2nd ed., W. K. Bellingher, 2015. Routledge.
- Cost-Benefit Analysis, 5th ed., Boardman, Greenberg, Vining & Weimer, 2018. Cambridge University Press.

Other helpful textbooks:

- Microeconomic Policy, S. I. Cohen, 2001. Routledge.
- Intermediate Public Economics, 2nd ed., J. Hindriks & G.D. Myles, 2013. MIT Press.
- Intermediate Microeconomics, EMEA ed., Th. Nechyba, 2018. Cengage Learning.
- Public Microeconomics: Efficiency and Equity in Public Policy. Silvestre, J., 2012. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.
- The Microeconomics of Public Policy Analysis, Friedman, Lee S., 2002. Princeton University Press.
- 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 will be made available during the term.

Forme de l'enseignement

Lectures: 4 periods of 45 minutes per week
Office hours: upon request by e-mail

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Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Explain the policies that allow (partial) correction of market failures: how and when the government is supposed to intervene.
- Indicate by using the competitive benchmark, the four main market failures: public goods, externalities, market power and asymmetric information.
- Present the formal results and graphical representation of microeconomic problems, which is a key skill for colloquial communication.
- Outline new tools in microeconomics: experiments.
- Analyse in a formal manner and establishing as a benchmark the Arrow-Debreu competitive model. Conveying the intuition behind the Theorems of welfare economics and the difference between efficiency and equity.
- Formulate critical points of view towards the main obstacles to implementation.

Compétences transférables

- Apply knowledge to new situations
- Discuss complex issues and interactions
- Carry out a critical analysis
- Carry out critical and evidence-based analyses