



STUDY PROGRAMME

ECO-EPPA + POL-EPPA

ACADEMIC YEAR

2023-2024

SEMESTER

2

COURSE TITLE

POLICY ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION IN THE EU

COURSE PROFESSOR

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COURSE ASSISTANT

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NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL)

COMPULSORY

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

ENGLISH

ECTS CREDITS

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1. COURSE OBJECTIVE

The main objective of this course is to provide students with an advanced knowledge of how public policies are designed and evaluated. Students will learn about better regulation and its key tools, and acquire transferable skills on impact assessment and ex-post policy evaluation. The approach taken in the course is interdisciplinary, and Students will learn to combine reasoning from political and economic angles in order to critically approach real-life cases.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, the students should be able to:

- Explain why better regulation policies are adopted by governments, their intended objectives, common challenges and limitations, particularly in an EU context;
- Understand the methodological background of evaluation methods
 - cost benefit analysis and its roots in economic theory,
 - the relationship between cost benefit analysis and the political process,
 - the empirical methods to respond to the challenges of evidence-based policy making.
- Apply transferable skills on impact assessment and ex-post evaluation.

The learning outcomes for this course tie in with the following learning outcomes for the European Economic Studies programme:

– For ECO-EPPA students

1. Describe, explain and illustrate core economic theory and selected policies related to economic integration;
2. Understand the normative assumptions, implications and limitations of economic theory and economic policy making;



3. Use economic theory to assess current problems and policies;
4. Learn how to acquire relevant information in related disciplines (law, political science);
5. Describe, explain and illustrate the core normative assumptions, implications and limitations of legal theory and political science theory related to economics;
6. Use their knowledge of economics, legal principles and political science to analyse problems in law or political science.

– For POL-EPPA students

1. Students have a general knowledge of the main components of the EU political system: institutions, actors, decision-making procedures, competences and policies;
2. Students comprehend the disciplinary knowledge and theories specific to EU studies;
3. Students can analyse the process and actors of EU policy-making at different levels of governance and can reflect on potential developments.

3. COURSE CONTENTS

This course will provide students with practical and transferable skills in the areas of policy formulation and assessment. It will present the policymaking cycle in rules-based democracies, and examine the theory and practice of keeping public policy fit for purpose, with a discussion of associated challenges and pitfalls. It will present the current 'better regulation' practices in the EU, with practical examples of recent impact assessments and evaluations from different policy areas. The course will discuss ethics and integrity in public evaluation, with applications both to the EU and more broadly.

4. TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lectures with class participation.

5. COURSE MATERIAL

Lecture notes and readings.

6. EVALUATION

The evaluation will be based on

- a. A closed-book written exam (90% of the grade): two hours in length, separated in two parts. The two parts carry the same weight, one part per professor.
- b. Class participation (10% of the grade).

For second examination session: the resit examination is written and counts for 100% of the mark.