

Course Unit	Behavior and Public Policies		Field of study	Public Administration	
Master in	Local Government		School	School of Public Management, Communication and Tourism	
Academic Year	2023/2024	Year of study	1	Level	2-1
Type	Semestral	Semester	2	ECTS credits	6.0
Code	5047-585-1201-00-23				
Workload (hours)	162	Contact hours	T -	TP 45	PL -
			TC -	S -	E -
			OT 6	O -	

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) Bernadete de Lourdes Bittencourt

Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. Describe the environment of the political process.
2. Discuss the role of several agents in the construction of public policies.
3. Understand the decision-making process.
4. Explain the process of public policy formation.
5. Understand the main underlying government intervention criteria.
6. Analyze market failures and government failures, as well as main generic policies.

Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:
Not applicable.

Course contents

Government Activity and the Role of Public Policies (PP). Analysis Models and Theories of PP Formation. Environment and Agents of the Political Process and PP. Decision-making and Legitimacy of PP. Management and Implementation of PP. Impact and Evaluation of PP. The Market and Government Intervention. The Equity and Government Intervention. Criteria and Limits on Government Intervention. Correction of Market Failures and Government: Generic Policies.

Course contents (extended version)

1. Government Activity and the Role of Public Policies
 - What is Public Policy?
 - Public Policy as a Process and as a Profession
2. Analysis Models and Theories of Public Policies Formation
3. Environment and Agents of the Political Process and Public Policies
4. Decision-making and Legitimacy of Public Policies
5. Management and Implementation of Public Policies
6. Impact and Evaluation of Public Policies
7. The Market and Government Intervention
 - Efficiency and Government Intervention
 - Market Failures: Public Goods, Externalities, Natural Monopoly and Information Asymmetry
8. The Equity and Government Intervention
9. Criteria and Limits on Government Intervention
10. Correction of Market Failures and Government: Generic Policies
 - Freeing, Facilitating and Stimulating Markets
 - Using Subsidies and Taxes to alter Incentives
 - Establishing Rules
 - Supplying Goods through Nonmarket Mechanisms
 - Providing Insurance and Cushions

Recommended reading

1. Anderson, J. E. (2015). Public Policymaking: An Introduction, 8th ed. (Stamford, Conn. : Cengage). ISBN-10: 1285735285
2. Birkland, T. A. (2019). An introduction to the policy process: Theories, concepts, and models of public policy making, 5th ed. (New York: Routledge). ISBN: 9781351023948
3. Rodrigues, M. & Carreiras, H. (2017). Exercícios de Análise de Políticas Públicas 2. Lisboa: Editora Mundos Sociais. [ISBN: 978-989-8536-60-0]
4. Santos, J. (2012). Economia pública. (2.ª Edição). Lisboa: ISCSP. [ISBN 978-989-646-077-8]
5. Weimer, D. & Vining, A. (2017). Policy analysis: Concepts and practice. (6th Edition). London: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group. [ISBN-13: 978-1138216518]

Teaching and learning methods

The contact hours will be focused on discussion and analysis of the syllabus which will be accompanied by interpretation of real and practices situations. The none presence hours should be dedicated to the analysis of scientific papers and to the development of applied practical work.

Assessment methods

1. Continuous Evaluation - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final)
 - Presentations - 100%
2. Final Evaluation - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary, Special)
 - Final Written Exam - 100%
3. Exchange Students - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary, Special)
 - Development Topics - 100% (Development of practical works according to course contents.)

Language of instruction

Portuguese, with additional English support for foreign students.

Electronic validation			
Bernadete de Lourdes Bittencourt	Susana Isabel Pinto Ferreira dos Santos Gil	Catarina Alexandra Alves Fernandes	Luisa Margarida Barata Lopes
15-03-2024	15-03-2024	15-03-2024	17-03-2024

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