

Course Unit	Public Finances		Field of study	Public Administration	
Bachelor in	Public Management and Administration		School	School of Public Management, Communication and Tourism	
Academic Year	2023/2024	Year of study	1	Level	1-1
Type	Semestral	Semester	2	ECTS credits	6.0
Code	9165-315-1204-00-23				
Workload (hours)	162	Contact hours	T -	TP 60	PL -
			TC -	S -	E -
			OT 20	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) Catarina Alexandra Alves Fernandes

Learning outcomes and competences

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

1. Understand the role of the State in the economy.
2. Understand the structure of the Portuguese Public Sector, with particular emphasis on the institutional and financial reality of the Portuguese Public Sector.
3. Understand the financial activity of the State namely the public revenue and the public expenditure and their impact on the economy.
4. Understand the main aspects of the State Budget namely the process of elaboration, approval, implementation and control (budgetary cycle).
5. Analyze the aspects of the budgetary consolidation and be able to make a critical assessment of current reality on this subject.
6. Understand the main aspects associated with the budgetary policy in particular the stabilization budgetary policy and the budgetary policy in Economic and Monetary Union.

Prerequisites

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

Course contents

Introduction to the study of Public Finances. The dimension of the Public Sector and its evolution. The financial activity of the State. The Budget of the State. Budgetary consolidation. Stabilization policies and budgetary balance. Budgetary policy and Economic and Monetary Union (EMU).

Course contents (extended version)

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF PUBLIC FINANCES
 - The concept of Public Finances.
 - Differences between Public Finances and Private Finances.
 - The connection between Public Finances and Private Finances.
 - Public Finances meanings.
 - Public Finances subject.
 - The financial needs.
 - Positive Finances and Normative Finances and Neuter Finances and Interventionist Finances.
 - Historical evolution of Portuguese Public Finances.
2. THE DIMENSION OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND ITS EVOLUTION
 - Different forms of autonomy.
 - Public Sector structure.
 - Public Sector measures.
3. THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY OF THE STATE
 - Relationship between the State and the economic activity.
 - The need for a Public Sector.
 - Public Sector functions.
 - Public expenditures.
 - Public revenues.
4. THE STATE BUDGET
 - State Budget concept and functions.
 - Budgetary rules.
 - Budget structure.
 - Preparation of the budget.
 - Discussion and vote of the budget.
 - Approval/non approval of the budget.
 - Budgetary implementation.
 - Budgetary amendments.
 - Budgetary control and responsibilities.
5. BUDGETARY CONSOLIDATION
 - Budgetary consolidation concept.
 - Why promoting budgetary consolidation?
 - Ways to promote budgetary consolidation.
 - What problems arise with the lack of control of the public finances?
 - When to proceed to the process of budgetary consolidation?
6. STABILISATION POLICIES AND BUDGETARY BALANCE
 - Macroeconomic policy and budgetary policy.
 - Stabilization budgetary policy.
 - Stabilization and budgetary balance.
7. BUDGETARY POLICY AND ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION (EMU).
 - Historical evolution of the european integration.
 - Stages of development of the EMU.
 - EMU: general aspects.
 - Arms of EMU.
 - The Stability and Growth Pact.
 - The Stability and Growth Programme.
 - The Convergence Programme.

Recommended reading

1. Bravo, S. A. B. (2022). Finanças públicas - Teoria e prática em Portugal e na União Europeia. Edições Sílabo.
2. Franco, A. S. (2015). Finanças públicas e direito financeiro, Vol. I e II (Reimpressão da 4.ª ed.). Almedina.
3. Pereira, P. T., Afonso, A., Santos, J. C. G., Arcanjo, M., & Cabral, R. (2022). Economia e finanças públicas (6.ª ed. revista e atualizada). Escolar Editora.
4. Santos, J. A. (2016). Finanças públicas (2.ª ed. revista e aumentada). INA Editora.

Recommended reading

5. Silva, A. C., & Neves, J. C. (1992). Finanças públicas e política macroeconómica (2.ª ed.). Faculdade de Economia da Universidade Nova de Lisboa.

Teaching and learning methods

Discussion and analysis of the theoretical contents following, when possible, by practical applications.

Assessment methods

1. FINAL EVALUATION I - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary)
 - Final Written Exam - 50% (The exam covers all the contents of the curricular unit. (Minimum score of 7/20 points).)
 - Practical Work - 50% (Participatory budgeting (real context). (Mandatory presentation. Minimum score of 7/20 points).)
2. FINAL EVALUATION II - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary)
 - Final Written Exam - 100% (The exam covers all the contents of the curricular unit. Alternative to final evaluation I.)
3. FINAL EVALUATION III - (Regular, Student Worker) (Special)
 - Final Written Exam - 100% (The exam covers all the contents of the curricular unit.)
4. INCOMING STUDENTS - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary)
 - Development Topics - 100% (Project about one topic of the curricular unit's contents.)

Language of instruction

Portuguese, with additional English support for foreign students.

Electronic validation

Catarina Alexandra Alves Fernandes	Bernadete de Lourdes Bittencourt	Susana Isabel Pinto Ferreira dos Santos Gil	Luisa Margarida Barata Lopes
05-03-2024	05-03-2024	05-03-2024	12-03-2024