

MASTER Economics Microeconomics IV - Public economics

Contacts	Description	Information
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CONTENT

The objective of this course is to study the role of state in the economy. It is designed to provide students with a broad overview of issues investigated in public economics. We will review the rational foundations of public intervention and explore some of the tools used by government to act : taxes and transfers, the provision of public goods, or the design of welfare schemes. Most topics will be approached from both theoretical and empirical points of view. Course outline :

Lecture 1 – Introduction to public economics

- Foundations of public intervention – Normative and positive public economics – Some numbers about public intervention – Empirical methods for public economics

Lecture 2 – Social choice and social welfare

- Axiomatic approach to social choice – Social welfare functions

Lecture 3 – Public goods and externalities

- Public goods – Externalities

Lecture 4 – Taxation of commodities

- Tax incidence – Optimal commodity taxation

Lecture 5 – Taxation of labor

- Optimal labor taxation – Some empirics around labor taxation

Lecture 6 – Taxation of capital

- Taxes in an intertemporal framework – Optimal capital income taxation – Taxation of inheritances

Lecture 7 – Social insurance

- Unemployment insurance and workers' compensation – Disability insurance – Health

insurance

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

To understand the rationale of public action and the trade-offs faced by any public policy.
To be able to apply economic analysis tools to public action.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Intermediate Public Economics, by J. Hindriks and G.D. Myles - The MIT Press
- Public Economics, by G.D. Myles - Cambridge University Press
- Lectures on Public Economics, by A.B. Atkinson and J.E. Stiglitz - McGraw-Hill
- The Economics of Taxation, by B. Salanié - The MIT Press
- Microeconomic Theory, by A. Mas-Colell, M. Whinston and J. Green - Oxford University Press 2014

ORGANISATION

Lectures and problem sets.

VOLUME OF TEACHINGS

- Lectures: 24 hours

TRAININGS

Master's degree: Economics

- Empirical and theoretical economics
- Economic policy analysis
- Econometrics, big data, statistics
- Quantitative finance and insurance

