



UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK TIRANA

Economics of Public Sector Syllabus – Fall 2007

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Office: 4th floor

Office Hours: M. 10-12, Th.13-15, Fri. 13-15 and/or by Appointment

Course Overview: This course analyses the interaction of government and the economy. The primary purpose of this course is to use microeconomic tools to study the effects of the government policies on economic agent behavior and the impact of public expenditures and public taxation on the distribution of resources. The objective is to provide a comprehensive understanding of public economics, to explore models of public finance and their dynamics, and to provide answers for economic and policy-related questions. **Our goal is: By the end of the course, you should be familiar with concepts and analysis of Public Economics.**

Prerequisites: Introductory Macroeconomics and Microeconomics, sufficient algebraic and graphic interpretation skills. This course assumes students have working knowledge of the materials learned in those prerequisite courses. If you have problems with a particular area I will be happy to work with you outside of class; but in general, the prerequisite material will not be covered (reviewed) in class.

Required Reading: Public Finance, by Harvey S. Rose, 7th edition, McGraw-Hill, 2004.

Additional reading material will be provided in class or by e-mail to augment the textbook. You will be responsible for printing, reading, etc of the materials sent by e-mail. Use your e-mail account as an important source of information, for class materials and additional information regarding this course.

Required Readings should be completed prior each class, therefore lecture assumes that you have read the material. Please come to class with questions on these readings. This will make class more enjoyable and productive.

Grading and Assessment: Your assessment in this class is directly related to your ability to meet this course's objectives. There will be one midterm exam, one paper/oral presentation and a final exam. The midterm exam is scheduled for the week of April 17 - 22. Both the midterm and the final exam will cover reading materials, lecture notes, and materials discussed during the presentations. The final is not comprehensive.

Assignments will consist of

1. Problem sets depending on the topic. They are important tools to practice and better prepare for exams. Answers to the homework might be provided by e-mail shortly after they are due. Therefore, no late homework will be accepted (worth 10% of your grade).
2. Policy memo (worth 20% of your grade). The topic and the due date will be discussed in class. Late memos will be downgraded by a +/- for each day the memo is late.

Neither homework nor policy memo will be accepted by Fax or e-mail

Grading procedure:

Participation	10%
Midterm	30 %
Final	30 %
Assignments	30 %

Grade Breakdowns are as follows:

A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	63-66%
D-	60-62%
F	0-59%

Tentative Course Schedule

- Introduction to Public Economics
- Market Failure and Government Intervention
- Political Economy, Privatization and Deregulation
- Redistribution and Expenditure Programs
- Social Insurance
- Cost Benefit Analysis, an Economic Evaluation
- Tax and Income Distribution
- Efficient and Equitable Taxation
- Personal and Corporate Taxation
- Deficit Finance