

## Course Descriptions NonDegree 2015-2016

Course Title Public Economics  
 Course Code EBC2012  
 ECTS Credits 6,5  
 Assessment Whole/Half Grades

Period	Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	26-10-2015	18-12-2015	X/E				X/E	

Level Intermediate

Coordinator Christian Seel For more information: [c.seel@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:c.seel@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Language of instruction English

Goals Acquiring a structured insight into the important functions of the state in modern market economies  
 Learning about the functioning and performance of the state and its interactions with markets  
 Understand and critically reflect recent developments and discussions concerning issues of the public sector like health insurance, taxation, pension systems.

Description This course provides basic knowledge of the functioning and the economic significance of the public sector with an emphasis on international aspects. Some of the topics to be dealt with in the course are: governmental decision-making on the national and international level, role and management of the state in times of globalisation and transnational threats like global warming and international terrorism, important issues pertaining to government expenditure, taxation, and activities (like public goods, international institutions, education, social security, health care), fiscal federalism (with an eye on European integration), and mechanisms of political influence (elections and lobbying). Those issues will be analysed from a normative - welfare economic - as well as from a positive - explanatory - perspective, with emphasis on the relevance and limitation of theory.

Literature Rosen, Harvey S. And Gayer, Ted (2010). Public Finance, 9th (international) edition, McGraw-Hill/Irwin, New York: NY. Note: Literature may change. Please contact course coordinator before buying the book. Additional text in the form of scientific papers will be provided

Prerequisites Basic knowledge and understanding of microeconomics (level comparable to: course Microeconomics)  
 Exchange students need to major in economics.  
 an advanced level of English

Teaching methods PBL / Presentation / Lecture

Assessment methods Participation / Written Exam

Evaluation in previous academic year For the complete evaluation of this course please click <http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM>

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation

Bachelor Economics and Business Economics Specialisation Economics	Year 2 Compulsory Courses
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics Specialisation Emerging Markets	Year 2 Elective Courses
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics Specialisation Economics and Management of Information	Free Electives
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics Specialisation International Business Economics	Economics Electives
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics Specialisation International Business Economics	Major Microeconomics
SBE Exchange Bachelor	Bachelor Exchange Courses
SBE Exchange Master	Bachelor Exchange Courses
SBE Non Degree Courses	Bachelor Courses