



蘇州大學
Soochow University

ECO 392 Public Economics

Summer 2023

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 55 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course makes an introduction to the role of government in economic field. Micro-analytic techniques will be used for students to understand the theories and policies, and evaluate the budgetary activities of the government. The course emphasizes on governments' role in redistribution through tax system. Topics covered are political economy, taxes and public goods such as education, health care, employment insurance and pensions, social insurance, welfare programs and etc.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Comprehend the theories and concepts of public economics;
2. Apply the principle of public economics to analyze the relevant issues;
3. Describe how public goods have influences on our lives;
4. Explain how the government plays roles in economic field;
5. Explain the impact of taxes on the public, business firms, and the government.

PREREQUISITES

ECO 110 Microeconomics

GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
2 Quizzes	20 Points
2 Assignments	20 Points



Midterm Exam	25 Points
Final Exam	35 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Raghendra Jha, Modern Public Economics, 2nd Edition, Taylor and Francis, 2009.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	Topics: Topic 1: Introduction to Public Economics Topic 2: Welfare Economics Topic 3: Perfect Competition and Pareto Optimality Topic 4: Forms of the Social Welfare Function Assignment#1
Module 2	Topics: Topic 5: Public Expenditure Topic 6: External Effects and the Market Mechanism Topic 7: Public Goods Topic 8: The Theory of Taxation Assessments: Quiz#1
Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: The Effects of Taxes on Savings Topic 10: Taxation and Labor Supply Topic 11: The Effects of Taxes on Investment Behavior Topic 12: Taxation and Risk Taking Assessments: Midterm Exam



Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Tax Incidence in Dynamic Models Topic 14: Aspects of Income Taxation Topic 15: Applied Problems in Public Economics Topic 16: International Aspects of Taxation Assignment#2 Assessments: Quiz#2
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: Tax Incentives and Corporate Taxation Topic 18: Global Public Goods Topic 19: Cost-benefit Analysis and Randomized Evaluation Topic 20: Fiscal Federalism Assessments: Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.



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- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (e.g., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.