



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR  
2002/2003

## ORG 2211 Business and Society II

### Program

Master of Business and Economics Program

### Responsible for the course

Rune Sørensen

### Department

Public Governance

### Term

Fall

### ECTS Credits

6

### Objective

The course is designed as an introduction to how modern, democratic states are developed, organized and transformed. It aims to increase the students' understanding of the shaping of public policy, which instruments are used to achieve objectives that have been democratically decided on, and how international conditions form new external parameters for the nation-state's exercise of authority over its own citizens and business community.

### Prerequisites

Students must have completed and passed Business and Society I.

### Compulsory literature

Busch, Tor, Erik Johnsen, Kurt Klaudi Klausenog Jan Ole Venebo. 2001. *Modernisering av offentlig sektor: New public management i praksis*. Oslo: Universitetsforlaget.  
Grund, Jan. 1995. *Politikk og marked: Mangfoldet i offentlig sektor*. Oslo: Tano.  
Hatland, Aksel, Stein Kuhnle og Tor Inge Romøren (red.). 2001. *Den norske velferdsstaten*. 3. utg. Oslo: Gyldendal Akademisk.  
Rodrik, Dani. 1997. *Has globalization gone too far?* Washington, D.C.: Institute for International Economics.  
Sørensen, Rune J., Lars-Erik Borge, og Terje P. Hagen. 1999. *Effektivitet i offentlig tjenesteproduksjon*. Bergen: Fagbokforlaget.  
Sørensen, Rune, Jørn Rattsøe. 2000. *Ufordringer og reformer i offentlig tjenesteyting*. Vedlegg nr 5. i: Norges Offentlige Utredninger, nr. 21. [Online] Oslo: Finansdepartementet. Tilgang fra url: <http://www.odin.dep.no/fin/norsk/publ/utredninger/NOU/006001-020007/index-ved005-b-n-a.html> [Nedlastet 13. mai 2002].

### Recommended literature

None

### Course outline

1. State, democracy and market (6 hours)  
This is a history of ideas introduction to the classical political economy and the justifications for state power and tax-financed production of collective goods. What is a nation-state, and how is the market economy and the state governed by law linked together in a welfare state? What tensions arise between state, democracy and market in our type of Western European society?
2. Political government and powerlessness in Norway (12 hours)  
What are the universal political objectives for democratic government in Norway and how does the parliamentary governmental system function, according to the ideals and in practice? What are the main governmental instruments and what is the relationship between politics, bureaucracy and organized interest groups?

3. The welfare state (6 hours)

What characterizes the Norwegian public sector in an international perspective, and how shall we understand governmental problems and reform needs from the angle of objectives regarding social security and equal access to public services? What is understood by the Nordic welfare state model and what are the main tendencies in the demand for welfare state benefits? The connection between state responsibility and municipal services and the tensions between national equality objectives and effective use of resources.

4. Modernization of the public sector (12 hours)

What are the institutional governing methods and the arguments in favour of them? «New Public Management», liberalization, exposure to competition and privatization. What do we know about inefficiency in public services and under which conditions is increased use of market mechanisms in agreement with universal political objectives?

5. Globalization and Europeanization (7 hours)

What are the formal and actual limitations for Norwegian decision makers of impaired national sovereignty, and how does this create new external constraints on the exercise of democratic control with developments in society? What are the connections between national political-economic institutions and an effective business sector in Norway?

**Computer-based tools**

None

**Course structure**

36 lecture hours.

**Evaluation**

5-hour written examination which accounts for 100% of the grade

**Evaluation code(s)**

ORG 22111

**Aids at the examination**

None.

**Makeup exam**

At the next scheduled exam in the course.