



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2003/2004

ORG 2211 Business and Society II

Program

Master of Business and Economics Program

Responsible for the course

Rune Sørensen, Kaare Hagen

Department

Public Governance

Term

According to study plan

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 Klausen og Jan Ole Venebo. 2001. *Modernisering av offentlig sektor : New public management i praksis*. Oslo: Universitetsforlaget. *Pensum: Innledning samt kapitlene 1,2,4,5,8,9,10,17, tilsammen 121 sider.*

Eliassen, Kjell, Svein Andersen, eds. 2001. *Making Policy in Europe*. 2nd ed. London: Sage. *Pensum: kapitlene 1,2,3, tilsammen 58 sider.*

Grundt, Jan. 1995. *Politikk og marked: Mangfoldet i offentlig sektor*. Oslo: Tano. *Pensum: kapitlene 2,3,4,6,7, tilsammen 199 sider.*

Lindbeck, Assar. 2003. *Improving the Performance of the European Social Model*. Stockholm University: Institute for International Economic Studies. Seminar paper No 717. <http://www.iies.su.se/publications/seminarpapers/717.pdf> 27 sider.

Sørensen, Rune, Jørn Rattsøe. 2000. *Ufordringer og Reformert i Offentlig Tjenesteyting*. Vedlegg Nr 5. i: Norges Offentlige Utredninger, Nr, 21. <http://www.odin.dep.no/fin/norsk/publ/utredninger/NOU/006001-020007/index-ved005-b-f-a.html> 14 sider.

Recommended literature

None

Course outline

1. State, democracy and market

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

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

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

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

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.