



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/2009

## ORG 2211 Business and Society II

### Program

Bachelor of Science in Business (3. year), Bachelor of Science in Marketing (3. year)

### Responsible for the course

Kåre Hagen

### Department

### Term

According to study plan

### ECTS Credits

6

### Language of instruction

Norwegian

### 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

#### Books:

Busch, Tor, Erik Johnsen, Kurt Klaudi Klausen og Jan Ole Vanebo. 2005. Modernisering av offentlig sektor: Utfordringer, metoder og dilemmaer. 2. utg. Oslo: Universitetsforlaget. Pensum er kapitlene: 1,2,3,6,9,24

Firmreite, Anne Lise og Jan Erik Grindheim. 2007. Offentlig forvaltning. 2. utg. Oslo: Universitetsforlaget. Hele boken unntatt kapitlene 5, 7 og 12

#### Articles:

Lindbeck, Assar. 2003. Improving the performance of the European social model : the welfare state over the life cycle / by Assar Lindbeck. - Stockholm : The Research institute of industrial economics, 2003. - 30 s. - (Working paper /

Industriens utredningsinstitut ; 587). Stockholm University: Institute for International Economic Studies. Seminar paper No 717.. (27 sider). Finnes på følgende nettsadresse:

<http://www.iies.su.se/publications/seminarpapers/717.pdf>

Sørensen, Rune og Jørn Rattsøe. 2000. Ufordringer og reformer i offentlig tjenesteyting : vedlegg nr 5. i: Norges Offentlige Utredninger : Nr. 21. (14 sider). Finnes på:

<http://www.odin.dep.no/fin/norsk/publ/utredninger/NOU/006001-020007/index-ved005-b-f-a.html>

### Recommended literature

#### 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**

A five hour individual written exam concludes the course.

**Evaluation code(s)**

ORG 22111- Written examination accounts for 100% of the grade in ORG 2211 Business and Society II, 6 credits

**Aids at the examination**

None.

**Makeup exam**

At the next scheduled exam in the course.