

Public Economics - Web course

COURSE OUTLINE

This is a course in the graduate public economics. This one-semester course covers issues like the role of the government, provision of public goods, optimal design of tax and social policies, with emphasis on combining theoretical models with empirical evidence. Topics include public goods and externalities, efficiency costs and incidence of taxation, income taxation, transfer and welfare programs, and welfare analysis in behavioral models. Microeconomics is a pre-requisite for this course. I also expect you to have basic understanding of Econometric tools like OLS, Random and Fixed Effect models and Instrumental Variables.

COURSE DETAIL

Topics

1. Introduction: Why study public finance?
2. Externalities
3. Public goods
4. Tax Incidence
5. Efficiency Cost of Taxation
6. Optimal Taxation
7. Taxation and individual behavior
8. Tax reform
9. Empirical Public Finance
10. Social insurance and redistribution

NPTEL

<http://nptel.iitm.ac.in>

Humanities and Social Sciences

Additional Reading:

- Gruber, Jonathan. Public Finance and Public Policy. Worth Publishers, 2009. ISBN: 9781429219495.
- Myles, G. Public Economics. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, 1995. ISBN: 0521497698.
- Atkinson, A., and J. Stiglitz. Lectures on Public Economics. New York, NY: McGraw Hill, 1980. ISBN: 0070841055.

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