

COMPARATIVE PUBLIC POLICIES IN EUROPE

Curso 2014/2015

(Código: 6901404-)

1. PRESENTACIÓN DE LA ASIGNATURA

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

The course 'Comparative Public Policies in Europe' [optional, 6 ECTS, first semester, fourth year, offered in the English language] aims to provide conceptual and practical knowledge about European public policies, its determinants and contents. By learning both the main concepts and theories employed in comparative public policy research and get acquainted with the problems and contents of different policies and countries, the knowledge provided in this course will be useful for students both as future public managers or professionals and as ordinary citizens. The course focuses on the reality of several public policies in several European countries, offering information about the current discussion in the literature on public policy analysis at different levels of government (European, national, regional and local) and its mutual relationships and interactions. It looks at their types, dynamics, external and internal determinants, change and reform, outcomes and its changing contents in issues like economic, social or environmental policies across several countries.

2. CONTEXTUALIZACIÓN EN EL PLAN DE ESTUDIOS

THE COURSE'S PLACE IN THE DEGREE

The course 'Comparative Public Policies in Europe' is an optional course located on the fourth year and designed to introduce students in the advanced study of public policy from a conceptual and empirical perspective. This is done so that students acquire basic skills, apart from the language, to achieve their academic goals and develop their professional profile in the context of the UNED's Degree in Political Science and Public Administration.

In the context of the Degree in Political Science and Public Administration, this course provides advanced knowledge and analytical resources that will enable students to understand the processes, content and consequences of different policies across countries, their similarities and differences and the impact of European policies.

This course aims to bring students to the knowledge of public policy in several European countries, its relations with the political system and its impact in society. The course also provides a set of general skills useful for academic study and professional activity alike, among which it includes the capacity for analysis and synthesis, application of knowledge to practice, critical reasoning and the search for relevant information. This applied aspect of the course is reflected in the use of multiple examples and case studies in the readings as well as in the different continuous assessment tests (PREC) through which students can apply their general or conceptual knowledge about public policies to specific issues. In many cases, many of our graduates will become managers or professionals working for governmental or non-governmental organizations.

3. REQUISITOS PREVIOS REQUERIDOS PARA CURSAR LA ASIGNATURA

PREVIOUS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COURSE

Located in the first semester of the fourth year, this course requires some prior knowledge of policy analysis and comparative politics and institutions acquired through the compulsory courses of "Análisis de Políticas Públicas", "Sistemas administrativos comparados", "Política Comparada", among others, taken in previous years.

4.RESULTADOS DE APRENDIZAJE

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course seeks to achieve several learning outcomes derived from both its content and the development of intellectual abilities and skills it fosters. The idea behind the course is that before students can be trained to understand the techniques and tools used by public managers in their daily activities, they need to understand the conceptual underpinnings and institutional, political and social constraints and the logic behind those public policies. The problems and controversies that often affect public policy issues will be better understood by students and future public managers if they are able to understand and apply major theories and concepts related to public policy formation and understand and apply major methods of policy analysis

The course aims to meet the following objectives:

- Be able to analyze public policy and understand policy problems and make policy proposals to address them
- Learn how to collect, organize, analyze and communicate information relevant to research in Political Science and public policies.
- Refine the students' understanding of the world, their social and political reality, with the introduction of a new institutional and societal perspective to understand governmental activity and policy problems.
- Improve their citizenship, by increasing their knowledge relevant to the critical policy issues of contemporary life.

To these skills and abilities, the course adds the learning goal of improving the students "communication and expression in a foreign language (English)", by forcing them to read all the course required or recommended assignments in English and write their tests and continuous assessments in English. This will give them tools to achieve an improved comprehension, expression and communication in English and open for them possibilities of an international career or a job in an internationalized environment. It will offer students the ability improve their capacities to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist.

5.CONTENIDOS DE LA ASIGNATURA

CONTENTS OF THE COURSE (Syllabus)

This course aims to give students advanced knowledge on the process, dynamics and content of public policies in Europe. The course is structured into four main parts and 10 lessons. All of them have required and recommended readings.

A) The first part deals with the conceptual and methodological aspects of the comparative analysis of Public Policy and its determinants. It studies the comparative research of policy processes, policy agendas and policy contents using concepts such as policy cycle, policy styles and policy types, and looks at the determinants of policy, such as institutions, social complexity and trends and political parties, as well as the effects of globalization and Europeanization of policies and other international and national drivers of policy. B) The second part deals with the analysis of policy change and reform in European countries, by looking at policy change, convergence and policy diffusion. It studies the conditions and consequences of successful policy reform and policy dismantling in Europe. C) The third part deals with the impact of policies by studying their degree of success or failure and analyzing governance success and failure. It also looks at the impact of public policies in terms of social and political outcomes such as social justice and democratic legitimacy. D) The Fourth part offers some sectoral analyses of policy convergence or Europeanization across European countries: specifically it deals with economic and fiscal policies, social policies and environmental policy.

FIRST PART: THE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC POLICY AND ITS DETERMINANTS

1. The Comparative analysis of policy processes, policy agendas and policy contents Policy cycle, policy styles and policy types



Required

Dodds, Anneliese 2013. "Why compare Public Policies", in *Comparative Public Policy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 5-20.

Knill, Christoph and Jale Tosun 2011, "Policy Making". In: Daniele Caramani (ed.), *Comparative Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 373-388.

Suggested

Schmitt, Sophie 2013. "Comparative approaches to the Study of Policy-making", in Eduardo Araral, Scott Fritzen, Michael Howlett eds. *Routledge Handbook of Public Policy*, Oxford: Routledge, 29-43.

Hantrais, Linda 2008. "Defining and mapping international comparative research", in Linda Hantrais ed. *International Comparative Research. Theory, Methods and Practice*, Palgrave Macmillan.

Hill, Michael J. 2005. "Comparative perspectives on the analysis of the policy process", in *The public policy process*, 4th ed. Pearson Education Limited. 91-105.

Hantrais, Linda 2007. "Contextualization in cross-national comparative research", In Hantrais, L and Mangen, S (ed) *Cross-National Research Methodology and Practice*, Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, pp.3-18,

Feick, J. 1992. "Comparing Comparative Policy Studies, A Path towards Integration?", *Journal of Public Policy*, 12, 3: 257-285.

2. Determinants of policy: Institutions, social trends and political parties

Required

Compston, Hugh 2006. "Introduction: Policy Networks and Advocacy Coalitions in Action ", and "The Shape of Things To Come", in *King Trends and the Future of Public Policy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Adolino, Jessica R. and Charles H. Blake 2011. *Comparing Public Policies: Issues and Choices in Six Industrialized Countries*, Washington: CQ Press. 2nd ed. (chap 3)

Suggested

Prasad, Monica 2006. "Introduction", *The Politics of Free Markets: The Rise of Neoliberal Economic Policies in Britain, France, Germany, and the United States*; University of Chicago Press, 1-42.

Scharpf, Fritz W. 2000. "Institutions in Comparative Policy Research," *Comparative Political Studies*, 33: 6: 7.

Turner, Ed. 2011. *Political Parties and Public Policy in the German Länder. When Parties Matter*, Palgrave Macmillan, Chapter 1.

Amat, Francesc and Albert Falcó-Gimeno 2013. "The arithmetics of partisanship and policy outcomes in parliamentary democracies", *Cuadernos Económicos del ICE*, N.º 85, 81-104.

3. Globalization and Europeanization of policies. International and national drivers of policy.

Required

Hay, Colin and Daniel Wincott 2012. *The Political Economy of European Welfare Capitalism*, New York: Palgrave MacMillan. (chapter 3)

Suggested



Schmidt, Vivien A. 2002, "Europeanization and the mechanics of economic policy adjustment", *Journal of European Public Policy* 9:6 December 2002: 894–912.

Menz, Georg.2003. "Re-Regulating the Single-Market: National Varieties of Capitalism and Their Responses to Europeanization". *Journal of European Public Policy* 10(4), 532-555.

SECOND PART: THE ANALYSIS OF POLICY CHANGE AND REFORM IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

4. Policy change, convergence and policy diffusion.

Required

Studlar, Donley 2009. "Tobacco control policy in Western Europe. A case of protracted paradigm change", in G. Capano and M. Howlett eds. *European and North American Policy Change. Drivers and Dynamics*, Oxford: Routledge.

Suggested

Schmitt, Sophie; Euchner, Eva-Maria; Preidel, Caroline, 2012 "Regulating prostitution and same-sex marriage in Italy and Spain. The interplay of political and societal veto players in two Catholic societies", *Journal of European Public Policy* (Special Issue).

5. Policy reform and policy dismantling in Europe

Required

Tompson, William 2010. "Reform beyond the crisis", in *OECD Making reform happen. Lessons from OECD countries*, OECD, 12-38.

Suggested

Bauer, Michael. W. and Christoph Knill (2012) "Understanding Policy dismantling. An analytical Framework", Bauer, M., A.J. Jordan, C. Green-Pedersen and A. Héritier (eds.) *Dismantling Public Policy: Preferences, Strategies and Effects*. Oxford University Press: Oxford.

THIRD PART: DEGREE OF SUCCESS AND FAILURE AND IMPACT OF PUBLIC POLICIES IN EUROPE

6. Analyzing governance success and failure. Policy disasters

Required

Bovens, Mark; Paul 't Hart and B. Guy Peters 2001. "Analysing governance success and failure in six European states", in *Success and Failure in Public Governance. A Comparative Analysis*, Edward Elgar Cheltenham, UK, 12-33.

Suggested

Gray, P. 1998. "Policy disasters in Europe. An introduction", in Pat Gray and Paul't Hart eds. *Public policy disasters in Western Europe*, Routledge.

McConnell, Allan 2010. "Policy Success, Policy Failure and Grey Areas In-Between", *Journal of Public Policy*, Vol. 30, 3, 345-36.

7. The Impact of Public Policies in social outcomes, social justice and democratic legitimacy

Required

Goul Andersen, Jørgen (2011b). "The Impact of Public Policies", in Daniele Caramani (ed.), *Comparative Politics*. 2.ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 408-426.

Suggested



Bertelsmann Foundations 2011. *Social Justice in the OECD –How Do the Member States Compare? Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011*, Guterloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung.

FOURTH PART: SOME SECTORAL ANALYSES OF POLICY CONVERGENCE OR EUROPEANIZATION ACROSS EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

8. Economic and fiscal policies

Required

Scharpf F.W. 2011. "Monetary Union, Fiscal Crisis and the Preemption of Democracy", *Zeitschrift für Staats- und Europawissenschaften*, 163-198.

Suggested

Thompson, Grahame F. "Economic Management in the Eurozone", in Hay, Colin and Anand Menon 2007. *European politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 273-291.

Genschel, P., Kemmerling, A., Seils E., 2011. "Accelerating Downhill: How the EU Shapes Corporate Tax Competition in the Single Market", *JCMS*, 49(3), 585-606

9. Social policy

Required

Clasen, Jochen 2011. "Comparative social policy and the European Union", J. Baldock, L. Mitton, N. Manning and S. Vickerstaff (Ed.) *Social Policy*, Oxford University Press.

Suggested

Hantrais, Linda 2007. "Welfare Policy", in Hay, Colin and Anand Menon 2007. *European politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 292-309.

"Part V Social Policy", in Compston, Hugh ed. *Handbook of Public Policy in Europe. Britain, France and Germany*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. 277-364.

10. Environmental Policy

Required

Grant, Wyn and Jane Feehan 2007. "Environmental Policy", in Hay, Colin and Anand Menon *European politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 310-328.

Suggested

Hayes, Graeme Hartmut Aden and Andrew Flynn 2004. "Environmental Policy", in Compston, Hugh ed. *Handbook of Public Policy in Europe. Britain, France and Germany*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. 265-276.

Holzinger K., Sommerer T., 2011. "'Race to the Bottom' or 'Race to Brussels'? Environmental Competition in Europe", *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 49(2), 315-339.

6.EQUIPO DOCENTE

- [SALVADOR PARRADO DIEZ](#)
- [ANGUSTIAS M HOMBRADO MARTOS](#)
- [JOSE ANTONIO OLMEDA GOMEZ](#)



7.METODOLOGÍA Y ACTIVIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE

METHODOLOGY AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Teaching of this course is organized through several learning activities of students, which can be classified into three categories: individual learning of students, interaction with teachers and tutors and interaction with other students.

- (A.1.) Reading and study of syllabus lessons (making use of the required readings and eventually the recommended readings). This learning will be assessed through the final written test but there will also be some continuous assessment tests. The precise method will be determined by the number of students enrolled in the course.
- (A.2.) Realization of an on-site in-person written test in our UNED associated centers.

In total, it is calculated that the student must devote 150 hours to these learning activities.

8.EVALUACIÓN

ASSESSMENT

In the case of our distance-learning university where contact between faculty and students is mediated by different new technologies and tutorisation with some classroom learning in our associated local centers, the main method of evaluation in the Degree in Political Science and Administration is the on-site in-person tests, to be held in one of our UNED associated local centers according to the schedule established by the UNED at the beginning of each academic year.

In the course 'Comparative Public Policies in Europe' the on-site personal written test will represent at least 95% of the final grade. Students can earn the remaining 5% through continuous assessment, which will be added to the marks obtained in the in-person test, provided that the test has been marked with a grade of at least "5" (on 10 points).

The continuous assessment tests (PEC) are organized through different methods such as response memos or short papers responding to the readings or to practical issues given by the course teaching team and detailed in the Course "Study Guide". For example, the exercise shall briefly explain the key points from the selected readings and apply it the one policy problem that the student is working on or identifies an important debate related to that policy problem or issue. The students may also be asked to discuss the change, reform or the implementation of a public policy cross-nationally.

The main written test, designed to assess the acquisition of specific and generic skills associated with the course 'Comparative Public Policies in Europe' will consist of four questions (to choose 3 of them) related to the required readings of the different units of the syllabus. The writing space will be limited to one side of a page.

The language of all assessment and written tests in this course will be English.

9.BIBLIOGRAFÍA BÁSICA

Comentarios y anexos:

TEXTBOOKS AND ASSIGNED READINGS

The course is based in 13 required readings that every student must read during the course. At the same time, these readings can be supplemented with additional recommended readings and with three general textbooks that contain information on many countries and policies. The textbooks are

- Dodds, Anneliese 2013. *Comparative Public Policy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Adolino, Jessica R. and Charles H. Blake 2011. *Comparing Public Policies: Issues and Choices in Six Industrialized Countries*, Washington: CQ Press. 2nd ed.
- Compston, Hugh ed. 2004. *Handbook of Public Policy in Europe. Britain, France and Germany* Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.



A general database with comparative information on policy content and performance of most European countries can be found at

- Bertelsmann Stiftung. ed. 2014. *Sustainable Governance Indicators 2014, Policy Performance and Governance Capacities in the OECD*, Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung. <http://www.sgi-network.org/2014/>
- Jonker, Jedid-Jah (ed.) 2012. *Countries compared on public performance. A study of public sector performance in 28 countries*, The Netherlands Institute for Social Research SCP, The Hague.

The required readings that will be provided to the students via the virtual platform, are

1. Dodds, Anneliese 2013. "Why compare Public Policies", in *Comparative Public Policy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 5-20.
2. Knill, C. and J. Tosun 2011. "Policy Making". In: Daniele Caramani (ed.), *Comparative Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 373-388.
3. Hantrais, Linda 2008. "Defining and mapping international comparative research", in Linda Hantrais ed. *International Comparative Research. Theory, Methods and Practice*, Palgrave Macmillan.
4. Compston, H. 2006. "Introduction: Policy Networks and Advocacy Coalitions in Action", and "The Shape of Things to Come", in H. Compston *King Trends and the Future of Public Policy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
5. Adolino, J. R. and C. H. Blake, 2011. *Comparing Public Policies: Issues and Choices in Six Industrialized Countries*, Washington: CQ Press. 2nd ed. (chapter 3)
6. Hay, C. and D. Wincott 2012. *The Political Economy of European Welfare Capitalism*, New York: Palgrave MacMillan. (chapter 3)
7. Studlar, D. 2009. "Tobacco control policy in Western Europe. A case of protracted paradigm change", in G. Capano and M. Howlett eds. *European and North American Policy Change. Drivers and Dynamics*, Oxford: Routledge.
8. Tompson, W. 2010. "Reform beyond the crisis", in *Making reform happen. Lessons from OECD countries*, OECD, 12-38.
9. Bovens, M.; P. 't Hart and B. Guy Peters 2001. "Analyzing governance success and failure in six European states", in *Success and Failure in Public Governance. A Comparative Analysis*, Edward Elgar Cheltenham, UK, 12-33.
10. Goul Andersen, J. 2011. "The Impact of Public Policies", in Daniele Caramani (ed.), *Comparative Politics*. 2.ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 408-426.
11. Scharpf F.W. 2011. "Monetary Union, Fiscal Crisis and the Preemption of Democracy", *Zeitschrift für Staats- und Europawissenschaften*, 163-198.
12. Clasen, J. 2011. "Comparative social policy and the European Union", in John Baldock Lavinia Mitton, Nick Manning and Sarah Vickerstaff (eds.) *Social Policy*, Oxford University Press
13. Grant, Wyn and Jane Feehan 2007. "Environmental Policy", in Colin Hay and Anand Menon *European politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 310-328.

10.BIBLIOGRAFÍA COMPLEMENTARIA

Comentarios y anexos:

OTHER BIBLIOGRAPHY

Students can supplement some contents of the required readings and the textbooks with the following recommended readings

Schmitt, Sophie 2013. "Comparative approaches to the Study of Policy-making", in Eduardo Araral, Scott Fritzen, Michael Howlett eds. *Routledge Handbook of Public Policy*, Oxford: Routledge, 29-43.

Hill, M. J. 2005. "Comparative perspectives on the analysis of the policy process", in *The public policy process*,— 4th ed. Pearson Education Limited. 91-105.

Hantrais, L. 2007. "Contextualization in cross-national comparative research", In Hantrais, L and Mangen, S (ed) *Cross-National Research Methodology and Practice*, Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, 3-18.

Feick, J. 1992. "Comparing Comparative Policy Studies, A Path towards Integration?", *Journal of Public Policy*, 12, 3: 257-285.



Prasad, M. 2006. "Introduction", *The Politics of Free Markets: The Rise of Neoliberal Economic Policies in Britain, France, Germany, and the United States*; University of Chicago Press, 1-42.

Scharpf, F. W. 2000. "Institutions in Comparative Policy Research," *Comparative Political Studies*, 33: 6:7.

Turner, E. 2011. *Political Parties and Public Policy in the German Länder. When Parties Matter*, Palgrave Macmillan, Chapter 1.

Amat, Francesc and Albert Falcó-Gimeno 2013. "The arithmetics of partisanship and policy outcomes in parliamentary democracies", *Cuadernos Económicos del ICE*, N.º 85, 81-104.

Schmidt, V. A. 2002, "Europeanization and the mechanics of economic policy adjustment", *Journal of European Public Policy*, 9:6 December 2002: 894-912.

Menz, G. 2003. "Re-Regulating the Single-Market: National Varieties of Capitalism and Their Responses to Europeanization". *Journal of European Public Policy* 10(4), 532-555.

Schmitt, S.; Euchner, E-M.; and Preidel, C., 2012 "Regulating prostitution and same-sex marriage in Italy and Spain. The interplay of political and societal veto players in two Catholic societies", *Journal of European Public Policy* (Special Issue).

Gray, P. 1998. "Policy disasters in Europe. An introduction", in Pat Gray and Paul't Hart eds. *Public policy disasters in Western Europe*, Routledge.

McConnell, Allan 2010. "Policy Success, Policy Failure and Grey Areas In-Between", *Journal of Public Policy*, Vol. 30, 3, 345-362.

Bauer, M. W. and C. Knill (2012) "Understanding Policy dismantling. An analytical Framework", Bauer, M., A.J. Jordan, C. Green-Pedersen and A. Héritier (eds.) *Dismantling Public Policy: Preferences, Strategies and Effects*. Oxford University Press: Oxford.

Bertelsmann Foundation 2011. *Social Justice in the OECD –How Do the Member States Compare? Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011*, Guterloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung.

Thompson, Grahame F. "Economic Management in the Eurozone", in Hay, Colin and Anand Menon *European politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 273-291.

Genschel, P., Kemmerling, A., Seils E., 2011. "Accelerating Downhill: How the EU Shapes Corporate Tax Competition in the Single Market", *Journal Of Common Market Studies*, 49(3), 585-606.

Hantrais, Linda 2007. "Welfare Policy", in Hay, Colin and Anand Menon *European politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 292-309.

"Part V Social Policy", in H. Compston ed. *Handbook of Public Policy in Europe. Britain, France and Germany*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. 277-364.

Hayes, G. H. Aden and A. Flynn 2004. "Environmental Policy", in Compston, Hugh ed. *Handbook of Public Policy in Europe. Britain, France and Germany*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. 265-276.

Holzinger K., Sommerer T., 2011. "'Race to the Bottom' or 'Race to Brussels'? Environmental Competition in Europe", *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 49(2), 315-339.

11.RECURSOS DE APOYO

SUPPORTING RESOURCES

The readings and the textbooks are the main resources for the course, but the students are advised for their own interest, and to be able to develop the eventual practical assignments, to consult the following webpages with information on



European public policies in several countries and the European Union.

- European Commission

http://ec.europa.eu/policies/index_en.htm

- Eurostat

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/employment_social_policy_equality/introduction

- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

<http://www.oecd.org/>

- Cross-National Research Papers

www.xnat.org.uk

- Bertelsmann Foundation. Sustainable Governance Indicators 2014

<http://www.sgi-network.org/2014/>

12.TUTORIZACIÓN

TUTORING

As a general rule, students can address their queries to the teaching team throughout the course both by phone (during the respective office hours) or through the virtual platform or preferably by email. When emailing the teacher, please identify yourself, the name of the course, and make sure your question is formulated clearly and concisely, using appropriate and respectful language. The teaching team has the responsibility to resolve any doubts arising for students in the study of the course.

IMPORTANT! NB: Given that the language of this course is English, communications with the teaching team must be made in this language. Answers to queries will be done in English.

TUTORING SCHEDULE

Monday: morning and evening

Tuesday: morning

(Visit to teaching staff only by appointment)

- César Colino [coordinator] (Profesor Titular de Ciencia Política y de la Administración), telf. 91-3987009 (despacho 5.11)
Correo electrónico: ccolino@poli.uned.es

- Salvador Parrado (Profesor Titular de Ciencia Política y de la Administración), telf.: 91-3987091 (despacho 5.11) correo electrónico: sparrado@poli.uned.es

- José Antonio Olmeda (Catedrático de Ciencia Política y de la Administración), telf.: 91-3987001 (despacho 5.10) correo electrónico: jolmeda@poli.uned.es

