

## SoG Undergraduate Course Learning Objectives

### **FCOM 111: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Demonstrate an understanding of the key elements of New Zealand's constitutional and political arrangements and articulate their impact on the New Zealand commercial environment.
2	Demonstrate an awareness of the nature of the law and the law-making process, and the general operation of the legal system to meet the changing needs of government, business and society.
3	Demonstrate an understanding of the public policy process and explain how civil society actors and business engages with the policy process to exercise influence.
4	Analyse New Zealand's links with the rest of the world in terms of trade, sustainability, financial institutions and governance.

### **PUBL 113: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Explain the major theories of social policy and key criticisms of them.
2	Recognize the key social policy challenges that confront New Zealand's people and governments.
3	Describe the core institutional and economic arrangements developed in response to New Zealand's major social challenges.
4	Critique these policy and institutional options in light of theories of justice and fairness.

### **PUBL 201: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Explain the defining features of public policy, and critically assess the nature of good policy analysis and robust policy advice.
2	Explain and critically assess the respective contributions of different academic disciplines, especially economics, politics and philosophy, to the craft of policy analysis.
3	Explain, assess and apply the criteria for selecting policy options, including the role of evidence and ethical considerations.
4	Explain the main components of the policy-making cycle, including agenda setting, problem identification, policy formulation, decision making, implementation, evaluation and termination.
5	Critically assess how New Zealand's policy-making institutions, processes and outcomes compare with other developed democracies, including the role and significance of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi).

**PUBL 203/PUBL209: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Understand the role that prices play in a market economy, both as a method of allocating resources in the private sector, and as a guide for public policy.
2	Understand the twin objectives of efficiency and equity, and explain why there is often a trade-off between these two objectives.
3	Understand the connection between relative prices and notions of efficiency.
4	Understand the mechanics of the New Zealand tax system, the connection between the tax system and policy objectives, and their joint connection to the fiscal responsibility provisions of the Public Finance Act.
5	Communicate ideas of public economics in jargon-free English, both orally and in writing.

**PUBL 205: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Critically examine the meaning of development and distinguish it from the related concepts of economic development, and economic growth.
2	Describe the evolution of development thinking, and examine the relevance of different ideas and theories in terms of the complex nature of people's lives.
3	Assess the development context of specific countries and apply the tools and methods learnt in the course to formulate development policy options suited to specific country context.
4	Discuss influences on development policy, and explain the challenges in formulating development policy, implementing it, and evaluating the effects.
5	Assess the ways in which development policies can impact various dimensions of development such as food security, health, education, gender equality, livelihoods, and environmental sustainability.

**PUBL 210: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Apply policy analysis methods to investigate the normative and empirical aspects of contemporary policy challenges.
2	Select appropriate policy frameworks to design intervention strategies and present policy options.
3	Evaluate policy options with respect to a range of evaluative criteria and policy outcomes.
4	Demonstrate skills in constructing policy arguments and recommendations, and presenting them effectively, both orally and in writing.

**PUBL 211: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Illustrate and interpret public value and public integrity in diverse public management contexts.
2	Explain theories of public management and leadership and assess their relevance for practical challenges.
3	Identify best practice examples and show how public management can be enhanced in other jurisdictions to address comparable societal challenges.
4	Define and differentiate approaches to the management of people, finances and technology in public agencies.
5	Identify challenges and opportunities in the changing nature of the public sector and its political context.

**PUBL 303: By the end of this course, students should be able to:**

1	Describe the important schools of thought within public economics and the economics of politics.
2	Explain and evaluate the current level, form and methods of government involvement in the New Zealand economy.
3	Discuss the theoretical reasons for that involvement, and the appropriate design of economic instruments to achieve the objectives of involvement.
4	Explain the influences of economic theories on the design of public policy and management reforms in New Zealand and overseas.
5	Discuss the extent to which there is a trade-off between equity and efficiency, and the degree of complementarities between efficiency and equity.
6	Use the concepts of efficiency and equity in the development of policies for the public sector.
7	Explain the strengths and weaknesses of schools of thought within public economics for analysing policies in the public sector.
8	Use economic techniques to analyse policies in the public sector.

**PUBL 304: By the end of this course, students should be able to:**

1	Explain the main features of the institution of cabinet government.
2	Contrast parliamentary and presidential systems of executive government.
3	Compare and contrast features of cabinet government in different countries.
4	Assess the relevance of the ‘Westminster ‘model’ in the context of an analysis of cabinet government.

Note: for PUBL304 these objectives are scheduled to be updated before the course runs in Trimester 2 2016

**PUBL 305: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Critically analyse several kinds of social enterprise and illustrate how they influence a variety of different social challenges.
2	Distinguish social enterprises from other organisational forms including public and commercial enterprises and recommend when they might be most salient.
3	Assess the suitability of leadership and governance strategies for various kinds of social enterprise.
4	Apply frameworks to assess and improve social enterprise performance and outcomes.
5	Design and present policy and operational advice for decision makers for social enterprise issues.

**PUBL 307: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Analyse key debates surrounding environmental problems including those related to the limits to growth and sustainable development.
2	Assess the institutional constraints and opportunities for environmental policy integration across policy domains and coordination across multi-level governance scales (from local to global).
3	Compare and contrast theoretical approaches to examine and structure wicked environmental problems in multi-stakeholder settings.
4	Investigate and understand how to manage inputs from science and public participation in environmental policy design and implementation.
5	Critically assess the applicability of key frameworks and theories of policy instruments and governance, to design and implement interventions aimed at mitigating, preventing and adapting to environmental problems.

**PUBL 310: By the end of this course, students should be able to**

1	Analyse complex, multi-jurisdictional policy challenges and identify opportunities for policy entrepreneurship and leadership.
2	Compare and contrast contemporary frameworks of governance and policy processes to determine their suitability for tackling complex problems.
3	Design effective strategies for the facilitation of collaborative policy processes and management of conflict resolution in policy settings.
4	Select analytical strategies and options in light of uncertainty and complexity, by developing innovative policy arrangements and mechanisms of good governance.
5	Demonstrate skills in oral and written communication tailored for a variety of audiences.

**PUBL 311: By the end of this course, students should be able to:**

1	Compare and contrast contemporary theories of public management, public governance and public sector leadership.
2	Critique shifting relationships between public, private and not-for-profit agencies and judge implications for their relationship with the public.
3	Recognize and differentiate between new organizational forms and assess their potential to enhance performance.
4	Identify innovations in public management strategy and develop strategic plans that demonstrate public value.
5	Critically assess the concept of good governance in public management in relation to accountability and transparency.