

Econ3161
Public Finance (I)

2022/09/14

關鍵字: 社會福利、公共財、外部性、集體決策、成本效益分析、政府支出

Keywords: social welfare, public good, externality, collective decision, cost-benefit analysis, expenditure program

Time: 12:10-3pm Wednesday Classroom: TSMC 224

Instructor: Wu, Shih-Ying (吳世英)

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TA: TBD

Course website: Tsing Hua E-learning system at <https://elearn.nthu.edu.tw/>

Office hour: Thursday 1-2pm or by appointment

Introduction:

The principal objective of Public Finance I is to provide theoretical frameworks for understanding the roles of government, analyzing collective decisions in democratic societies, and evaluating the welfare implication of different government expenditure programs.. The course will also provide empirical evidences relevant for evaluating the theoretical arguments. In addition, the course will introduce the social welfare systems and ongoing policy issues in Taiwan.

Required readings:

Rosen, Harvey S. and Ted Gayer, *Public Finance*, 10th edition, McGraw-Hill Book Co. 2014. (earlier editions are fine, but page and exercise references are for the 10th edition.) (Yeh-Yeh Book Gallery, 雙葉書廊)

Topics:

Part I: Why governments? (about 5 weeks)

1. Roles of modern government
2. Positive analysis and normal analysis
3. Public goods
4. Externality

Part II: Collective decisions (about 4 weeks)

5. Political economy
6. Cost-benefit analysis

Part III: about 6 weeks

7. The health care market and government
8. Social security
9. Income inequality
10. Income redistribution
11. Expenditure programs for the poor

Exams:

Quiz 1: Week 06, 12:10-1pm, Oct. 19

Quiz 2: Week 15, 12:10-1pm, Dec. 21

The midterm exam: Week 09, Nov. 09

The final exam: Week 18, Jan. 11

*The class on June 01 will be replaced with online video.

*There will be no class on September 28 (Teacher's day) and November 16 (Tsing Hua' sports tournament day).

Instruction:

Most of the materials, including relevant policy issues, will be lectured and discussed. Nevertheless, the students are encouraged to volunteer opinions and raise related issues in the classes.

Grading Policy: We will hold two exams and two quizzes to determine final grades. Each of the two exams will comprise 35% of the final score, respectively, while each of the two quizzes will comprises 15%, respectively.