



| SYLLABUS_TUTORIAL  |  |  |
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| Title of the course: Public Policy   |  |  |
| Course lecturer: doc. dr. sc. Anka Kekez Koštro (PhD, Assistant Professor) |  |  |
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| Study program: Political Science, Journalism                               |  |  |
| Year of the study: 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>                       |  |  |
| ECTS: 7  |  |  |
| Course description and course objectives:                                  | The course aims to introduce students to the study of public policy, its key concepts, approaches, and analytical frameworks. The tutorial provides a foundational understanding of how public policies are made, who participates in their creation, and what purposes they serve.  |  |
|  | It builds on the premise that different levels of government (national, regional, and local) develop specific policies to address various economic, social, and political challenges. These actions involve laws, regulations, taxation, public services, and other instruments of public decision-making, forming what is collectively referred to as public policy.  |  |
|  | The tutorial is designed to translate theoretical frameworks and key terminology into practice through applied examples. Students will develop analytical skills in both policy research and policy analysis, from defining public problems and identifying policy instruments to formulating and evaluating policy alternatives and preparing evidence-based recommendations.   |  |
|  | Special emphasis is placed on understanding the distinction between policy research and policy analysis, developing data literacy, and strengthening the ability to construct evidence-based arguments. Students will also acquire practical skills in structuring and presenting both a policy analysis and a policy brief.   |  |
| Course enrolment requirements and entry                                    | No specific prerequisites are required.  |  |
| competences:   |  |  |
| Learning outcomes (at the level of the course):                            | <ul> <li>Upon completion of the tutorial, students will be able to:</li> <li>understand and explain the main steps in the public policy process;</li> <li>define and describe a public problem in an analytical and evidence-based manner;</li> <li>recognize and compare different policy instruments;</li> <li>design and evaluate alternative policy options;</li> <li>prepare and present a policy analysis in the form of a PowerPoint presentation;</li> <li>independently structure and write a policy brief.</li> </ul>  |  |
| Course content<br>(weekly class schedule):                                 | <ol> <li>Public Policy in Research and Practice - Introduction to the policy process; actors and stages of policymaking</li> <li>Agenda Setting - Justifying public intervention; defining phenomena and collecting data</li> <li>Problem Definition - Framing public problems; types of policy problems</li> <li>Developing and Calibrating Policy Alternatives - Identifying policy instruments; designing and comparing alternative solutions; theory of change and impact mapping</li> <li>Option Evaluation and Selection - Evaluation criteria (effectiveness, cost, political and organizational feasibility); evaluation matrices</li> <li>Presentation of Policy Analysis - Student presentations; discussion and feedback</li> <li>Structure of a Policy Brief - Guidelines for writing and final consultations</li> </ol> |  |





| Required reading:              | Howlett, M., Ramesh, M., & Perl, A. (2020). Studying Public Policy: Principles and Processes.           |
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|                                | Bardach, E. & Patashnik, E. (2020). A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: The Eightfold Path to        |
|                                | More Effective Problem Solving. CQ Press.   |
|                                | Students are expected to attend classes regularly and actively participate in discussions.              |
| Student participation and      | Throughout the course, they will engage in both individual and group work focused on selected           |
| requirements:                  | public policy problems. Each student will prepare and deliver a PowerPoint-based policy analysis,       |
|                                | and at the end of the tutorial, they will submit and orally defend a written policy brief.              |
| Grading and evaluating student | The final grade will be based on:   |
|                                | <ul> <li>Quality of the written and presented policy analysis (40%)</li> </ul>                          |
| work in class and at the final | <ul> <li>Quality of the written policy brief and use of relevant analytical frameworks (30%)</li> </ul> |
| exam:                          | Oral defence of the policy brief (30%)  |
| Grading scale:                 | Excellent (5); Very good (4); Good (3); Satisfactory (2); Unsatisfactory (1)                            |