

Public Management (F710350)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)

English

Gent

lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Suykens, Ben

EB25

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

[Bachelor of Science in Political Science](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Science in Public Administration and Management](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Science in Sociology](#)

6

A

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject China\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject India\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject Japan\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject Middle East Studies\)](#)

5

A

[Micro-credential Public Management](#)

5

A

[Exchange programme in Economics and Business Administration](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences](#)

5

A

[Linking Course Master of Science in Public Administration and Management](#)

5

A

[Preparatory Course Master of Science in Public Administration and Management](#)

5

A

[Elective Set Public Administration and Management](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Public management, public service performance, public values

Position of the course

Public organizations play a crucial role in our daily lives, and when these do not perform adequately there are severe societal consequences. Public management focuses on the practice of managing macro-, meso- and micro-level activities that enable or constrain public organizations to achieve their core purpose and create public value. During this course students learn more about essential definitions, models and concepts in public management, and about how public management helps public organizations perform better through cases and practical examples. The course also introduces students to the research field of public management.

Contents

Macro-level activities: public management reform, public sector performance, competing values and goals

Meso-level activities: Organizational scale, network management, red tape and strategic management

Micro-level activities: relation with street-level bureaucrats, politicians and citizens

Initial competences

Basic Knowledge of Management, Psychology and Sociology

Final competences

1 Recognizing and explaining the importance of public management in the 21st

century.

2 Acquiring basic knowledge concerning public service performance and public values.

3 Understanding how management tools can be applied in (semi-)public organizations and which public values as well as theories play a part in this.

4 Apply the insights of the course to societal cases

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures including interactive online tools and discussion

Autonomous reading of research papers, which we will then discuss during the lecture.

Study material

None

References

Course content-related study coaching

The learning material of the lectures (nl. slides, research papers) is put online every week and contains together with the student's notes the essence of the course content. The lecturer provides space during the lectures to discuss general questions.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Written exam: A series of open questions aimed at testing knowledge, insight and application of the learning materials.

Calculation of the examination mark

Written exam 100 %