

Seminar on Welfare Policy (F710356)

Due to Covid 19, the education and assessment methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Contact hrs

45.0h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2021-2022

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

online lecture

0.0h

lecture

25.0h

fieldwork

20.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2021-2022

Verschuere, Bram

EB25

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2021-2022

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

5

crdts

offering

A

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

5

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Welfare policy and its target groups, trends and challenges in welfare policy, local social policy, governmental organization of the welfare sector.

Position of the course

It is important that students in public management are confronted with a policy field in which government has a large impact and influence. The main targets of this course are:

- Linking (earlier aquired) general knowledge about public management, administration and public policy with a specific policy field (in casu welfare policy).
- Making students familiar with concepts in the field of welfare.
- Making students familiar with the recent developments in welfare policy, including trends and challenges for the welfare policy field.
- Making students familiar with the different actors in the field of welfare, and with the institutional setting in this policy field.

Contents

Basic knowledge:

- Governmental levels in Belgium that are responsible for (parts of) welfare policy, and their roles
- Themes in Flemish welfare policy: elderly care, care for disabled, poverty policy, minorities, youth care, family policy, etc. For each of these themes, an overview is given of actual policy tendencies, actors, target groups and institutional organization.
- Local social policy
- Trends and challenges in welfare policy.
- Governmental and institutional organization of the policy field.

Practice:

- Conducting a small scale research project with a focus on a topic in welfare policy, following a clear method
- Reporting on the assignment via a paper

Initial competences

Basic knowledge of policy and administration in central and local government in Belgium/Flanders

Final competences

- 1 Knowing the essentials of welfare policy in Flanders
- 2 Knowing the essentials of the institutional organization of welfare policy in Flanders
- 3 From this knowledge: being able to reflect critically about trends and challenges in this policy field.
- 4 Being able to conduct a problem-driven small scale research project
 - Analysis of the problem
 - Gathering relevant data in a systematic way
- 5 Being able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions in a written paper.

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

Online lecture, Lecture, Fieldwork

Extra information on the teaching methods

Ex cathedra (by professors and visiting professors/practitioners) in order to give the students the basic knowledge on welfare policy

Field work: assignment

Learning materials and price

- Book (Dutch)
 - Reader with actual sources (articles and press) about issues in welfare policy
 - Hand outs of the classes
 - Notes to be taken in the classes
- Estimated price learning material ca. 50 euro.

References

- 1 Verschuere, B. & Hermans, K. (2020). *Welzijn in Vlaanderen: Beleid, Bestuurlijke organisatie en Uitdagingen*. Brugge: Die Keure

Course content-related study coaching

Professors will answer all questions before and after classes, and appointments can be made (by e-mail) to discuss any issue of this course in-depth.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Written examination, Assignment

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

Written examination, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

- Exam: basic knowledge on policy, organisation and challenges of welfare policy
- Paper with report on assignment
- Second examination period: only retake of the part the student failed.

Calculation of the examination mark

- 10/20 Exam
 - 10/20 paper
- Students must pass for both parts.

