

ISS 4182 Comparative Public Policy

Institution:	International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam
Year:	Year 1
Course type:	Core course
Assessment:	85% assignments, 15% presentation
ECTS:	5

Brief description (including learning outcomes):

Comparative public policy has become an important field of study within the Policy Sciences more in general. By promoting the exchange of knowledge, expertise and 'best practices' across Europe it is also playing an important role in the process of Europeanization of public policies itself. Yet, comparative public policy faces many empirical, theoretical and methodological difficulties. To overcome such difficulties, this course develops a problem solving approach to the comparative study of public policies.

At the end of the course, students:

- are able to discuss the difficulties as well as opportunities of comparative public policy for policy learning;
- are familiar with the comparative dynamics of agenda setting;
- can compare processes of policy implementation by looking at instrument choices and implementation styles;
- are familiar with the design and execution of policy research from a comparative perspective and with instruments as international surveys, multi-case studies, benchmarking and best practices and use of international statistics.