

Policy Analysis

Institution:	School of Public Policy, Central European University
Year/Term:	Year 1
Course type:	Core course
ECTS:	4

Course Description

This mandatory 2 credit course examines the policy process in different political and geographical contexts. The course considers how policy problems are identified and framed, and how responses are formed and evaluated. Through interactive seminars based on core literature, policy material and case study work, students learn and apply key concepts in policy studies, deepen their knowledge of the policy cycle from initiation implementation and evaluation, and examine the actors, interests and institutions (domestic and external) that shape policy processes and outcomes. Different traditions in policy analysis and normative aspects of the policy process are critically examined, as well as the impact different contexts (geographical and political) have on policy-making.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- identify policy problems and critically engage with them with various analytical tools and methods
- understand key concepts in policy studies and apply them to/in specific problems/context
- understand, articulate and critically discuss how policy issues are problematized and policy responses are designed, implemented, monitored and evaluated in different political and geographical contexts
- engage with normative aspects of policy design, including strategies to mainstream rights, evidence-based and gender and conflict sensitive approaches
- identify key actors and institutions and entry points for advocacy and engagement in the policy process in divergent policy contexts,
- write about public policy for different audiences.