



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Public Policy Analysis

2122-2-F6302N051

Learning objectives

In different contexts of work and education students may be asked to examine, understand, describe and evaluate the impact of public interventions and identify best practices for policy design. Several qualitative and quantitative methods are usually adopted to provide policy makers and stakeholders with consistent information on policy outcomes and the course aims at making participants able to understand and use such methods.

This course is part of a broader training path (96 hours) organized in three separate courses. The first **Policy Analysis** (24 hours, 3 CFU) aims at introducing students to policy analysis and evaluation; the second, **Policy Implementation and Accountability** (24 hours, 3 CFU), focuses on the critical analysis of the implementation of public policies, while the third, **Policy Evaluation** (48 hours, 6 CFU), is devoted to quantitative approaches to policy evaluations (experimental and quasi-experimental techniques). Thus, the whole path integrates qualitative and quantitative methods to analyse and evaluate projects and programs, and explores both theoretical and empirical issues by alternating formal lectures, case studies discussions and training sessions.

The training path is included among the elective courses and it is offered to all students interested in acquiring a specific competence in all aspects related to policy evaluation. Although not compulsory, participation in all three courses is recommended.

At the end of the course student will be able to carry out autonomous evaluation research and practice by discussing projects and using common software packages.

Contents

The course starts with the definition of public policy and the discussion of the basic concepts and the logic underlying the approach of policy evaluation as a tool to improve the design and make more effective the implementation of public policies.

The legal and institutional frameworks, at different levels of governance, ional level, are also analysed.

Detailed program

- Basic concepts: what a pulic policy is - the life cycle of public policies - the main institutional and policy actors.
- the logic of public evaluation
- Policy evaluation in Lombardy region: the legal framework
- Policy evaluation in Europe
- The access to information: issues of privacy and transparency
- How to communicate policy evaluation
- Policy evaluation in Lombardy: case studies from welfare, transport, agriculture, environment, education and local development policies.

Prerequisites

none.

Teaching methods

Face to face lessons, case discussion, training and interactive sessions with selected guest speakers.

Attendance of the whole educational path (three courses) is strongly recommended, though not compulsory.

Assessment methods

online test made of multiple choice questions and at least one open question.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

They are indicated in class.

Semester

first semester.

Teaching language

italian
