

Study programme: Public Administration, Local Self-Government and Public Policies, Social Policy, module: Social Protection
Name of the course: Decision-making in Public Sector
Teacher: Veran Stančetić
Course statute: Elective
ECTS: 6
Eligibility:
Aim of the course This is a theoretical-applicative discipline which deals with theoretical concepts of decision-making in public sector and development of knowledge and skills that provides • democratic decision-making (democratic procedures, adequate involvement of stakeholders and decision based on citizens' interests – public interest and public good; • evidence based policy making, • professional and quality carried out decision making process with implementation of different methods of analysis and decision drafts. This course shall achieve a dual aim. First, students are trained to analyze and elaborate all actors, factors and motives influencing decision-making in public sector (empirical analysis of public sector). Second, mastering of techniques of decision-making in public sector that should lead to optimum outcome, i.e. to decisions in accordance with public interest and good management principles (normative approach).
Outcome of the course Students will be trained to analyze and evaluate the situation in public sector and offer optimum solutions, i.e. make/propose effective decisions. In order to achieve this, students will obtain knowledge in two main fields. The first are motives and factors influencing the decision-makers which are not always in accordance with general interests (unprofessional, biased or subjective decisions). Another field are techniques and skills of decision-making in public sector, observed from normative aspect (i.e. the aspect of public interest). Accordingly, students will be trained to make valid decisions in many organizations and institutions of public sector, together with being trained for critical thinking and analysis of actors in public affairs.
Content of the course <i>Theoretical classes</i> 1. Theory of decision-making and public sector (main concepts, interest, public-private, normative, empirical). Decision-making in politics versus decision-making in public policy sphere; 2. Structure and ambience of public sector (formal and informal actors in decision-making, cooperation and conflicts; ambience for decision-making, procedures, manner of reaching decisions, formulation of agenda); 3. Key actors in public sector and analysis of their behavior – motivators of political action and models of politics – theory of public choice; 4. Politicians, voters (citizens) and interest groups and lobbyists; 5. Bureaucracy, regulation, rent seeking; 6. Market or authorities – market and participative state; 7. Public decision-making in conditions of cooperation and competition (conflicts) – game theory (coalitions, distribution of coalition gain, negotiations and negotiating games); 8. Basics of theory of decision-making: quantitative and qualitative approach, usefulness, probability; 9. Group decision-making in public sector – advantages and flaws, methods, techniques of involvement of experts and citizens, agenda and possible manipulations; 10. Involvement of citizens in public decision-making (participative decision-making) and protection of public interest – principles of good governance and importance of local level of government for citizens' participation; 11. Organizational and metaorganizational (state) decision-making – communication and information, building of trust and feeling of belonging to community, importance of IT (database). Analysis of decision-making in metaorganizations (municipality, region, state); 12. Presentation of case study in selected fields of public policies – prospective analysis <i>Seminars</i> Seminars imply application of acquired knowledge through simulations of actual activities. This involves analysis

of different situations in public sector, identification of problems, possible choices (solutions) and key actors. In addition, through seminars student solve problems, i.e. given problematic situations to which they should optimally respond.

Literature

a) main :

Veran Stančetić, *Odlučivanje u javnom sektoru*, FPN i Čigoja, 2020, Beograd.

o) Additional:

Snežana Đorđević, *Analize javnih politika*, Čigoja, 2009, Beograd, (metode).

Carl Patton, David Sawicki, Jeniffer Clark, *Basic Methods of Policy Analysis and Planning – 3rd edition*, Routledge, 2016.

Džozef Stiglic, *Ekonomija javnog sektora*, Ekonomski fakultet, Beograd, 2013.

Boža Stojanović, *Teorija igara*, Ekonomski fakultet, 2005, Beograd (selected chapters).

Number of classes of active teaching	Theoretical classes: 30	Seminars: 30
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Teaching methods

Lectures, illustration of theory through analysis of actual cases, discussion

Grading of knowledge (maximum number of points 100)

Pre-examination commitments	Points	Final exam	points
Activity at lectures	10	Written exam	
Practice	10	Oral exam	40
Colloquium/a	30		
Seminar/s	10		