

 FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	COURSE CHANGE REQUEST Undergraduate Programs	UUPC Approval <u>12/4/23</u> UFS Approval _____ SCNS Submittal _____ Confirmed _____ Banner Posted _____ Catalog _____
	Department Economics College Business	
Current Course Prefix and Number ECO 4504	Current Course Title Economics of Public Sector	
<i>Syllabus must be attached for ANY changes to current course details. See <u>Template</u>. Please consult and list departments that may be affected by the changes; attach documentation.</i>		
Change title to: Change prefix From: _____ To: _____ Change course number From: _____ To: _____ Change credits* From: _____ To: _____ Change grading From: _____ To: _____ Change WAC/Gordon Rule status** Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove <input type="checkbox"/> Change General Education Requirements*** Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove <input type="checkbox"/> <small>*See <u>Definition of a Credit Hour</u>.</small> <small>**WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See <u>WAC Guidelines</u>.</small> <small>***GE criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See <u>Intellectual Foundations Guidelines</u>.</small>	Change description to: What is the role of the government in the economy? How does public policy influence our society? This course examines the nature of public goods and government expenditures. Also, it evaluates the fairness and economic effects of various taxes and explores public debt policies. Students will learn to evaluate under which circumstances the government should participate in markets. Change prerequisites/minimum grades to: Change corequisites to: Change registration controls to: Please list existing and new pre/corequisites, specify AND or OR and include minimum passing grade (default is D-).	
Effective Term/Year for Changes: Fall 2024	Terminate course? Effective Term/Year for Termination:	
Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Long Liu, liul@fau.edu. 561-207-3222		
Approved by Department Chair <u>Monica Escaleras</u> College Curriculum Chair <u>Julie Agos</u> College Dean <u>Phil New</u> UUPC Chair <u>Korey Sorge</u> Undergraduate Studies Dean <u>Dan Meerhoff</u> UFS President _____ Provost _____	Date <u>11/4/23</u> <u>11-30-23</u> <u>11/30/23</u> <u>12/4/23</u> <u>12/4/23</u> _____ _____	

Email this form and syllabus to mjennning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

ECO 4504-001

CRN 00000

Economics of Public Sector

T/R 9:30 – 10:50 AM

3 credits

Semester:

Prof. Christopher Boudreaux

Office: OD 201B

Office hours: T/R 12:30 – 2:30 PM or by appointment

Telephone: 561-297-3221

Email: cboudreaux@fau.edu



Course Description

What is the role of the government in the economy? How does public policy influence our society? This course examines the nature of public goods and government expenditures. Also, it evaluates the fairness and economic effects of various taxes and explores public debt policies. Students will learn to evaluate under which circumstances the government should participate in markets.

Instructional Method

This class is designated as “Online Live Lecture.” Class sessions will be held online and recorded live, and students will be able to view class sessions remotely in Canvas.

Office Hours Instructions

I will respond to emails during office hours (T/R 12:30 – 2:30 PM). If you prefer to ask questions via Webex, please email me to set up an appointment or to notify me you are ready to meet on Webex for office hours.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisites: ECO 2013 and ECO 2023, or ECO 3003

3 credit hours

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

The object of the course is to provide an understanding of the economic activities of government. This includes taxation, government spending, and regulation. Government activities will be analyzed both with regard to the government's actual activities and from the standpoint of what governments can and should do. We will also discuss public policy issues relevant to the course.

Course Evaluation Method

There are four examinations—three midterms and one final exam. Each midterm exam will count towards 20% of your grade, and the final exam will count towards 25% of your grade. There will also be a group assignment and presentation worth 15% of your grade.

Group Assignment and Presentation

The instructor will assign groups of 2-3 students to work on a topic from, “The Economics of Public Issues.” The topic should be related to our course material. Groups will be responsible for giving a presentation on their topic for 12-15 minutes. During this presentation, students must (1) introduce the topic and explain its importance, (2) discuss and explain the economics of the topic, and (3) discuss current and future policy positions. Students will be required to turn in a hard copy of the outline of their presentation and will be graded on their oral presentation. A rubric will be used to grade each group.

Course Grading Scale

90-100%	A
80-89.9%	B
70-79.9%	C
60-69.9%	D
< 60%	F

Policy on Makeup Tests, Late Work, and Incompletes (if applicable)

Make-up exams will only be offered if documentation is provided to the instructor that offers a valid medical excuse or other documented emergency situation. Please note that students may not be penalized for absences due to participation in University-approved activities, including athletic or scholastics teams, musical and theatrical performances, and debate activities. Instructors must allow these students to make up missed work without any reduction in the student’s final course grade. Reasonable accommodation must also be made for students participating in a religious observance. Also, note that grades of Incomplete (“I”) are reserved for students who are passing a course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances. If your college has elaborated on this policy, state so here.

Late assignments will not be accepted.

Special Course Requirements (if applicable)

You are required to have a webcam for this course. This serves two purposes: 1) exam monitoring, and 2) group presentations. We will be using the LockDown Browser and Responds Monitor settings in Canvas to monitor exams.

Classroom Etiquette Policy (if applicable)

Please mute your microphone when not speaking. This reduces background noise and allows the presenter to be heard without disruption. Recognizing the unique relationship between faculty and student and adhering to the principles of academic responsibility, any such policies must be reasonable, non-discriminatory and not impede the educational mission.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>

Disability Policy

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#).

Required Texts/Readings

1. “Public Finance and Public Policy”

By Jonathan Gruber

ISBN-13: 978-1-319-10525-9

6th Edition

University Holidays (No class)

November 26 – Thanksgiving

Supplementary/Recommended Readings (if applicable)

2. “Public Sector Economics: The Role of Government in the American Economy”

By Randall Holcombe

ISBN-13: 978-0131450424

3. “Economics of Public Issues”

By Roger Miller, Daniel Benjamin, and Douglass North

ISBN-13: 978-0134531984

20th Edition

Course Topical Outline

The course outline is designed to show you the sequence of topics we will cover. However, it is tentative. We will discuss specific exam dates in class as we approach them.

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THIS SYLLABUS AS NEEDED AND WITH NOTIFICATION TO STUDENTS.

Course Outline

Class Topic	Reading	Date
Course introduction, Budget Analysis, and Deficit Financing	Ch 1 & 4	Week 1: Aug 25 & 27
Externalities	Ch 5, 6	Week 2: Sep 1 & 3
Public Goods and Political Economy	Ch 7 & 9	Week 3: Sep 8 & 10
Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9)		Week 4: Sep 15 & 17
Social Insurance and Social Security	Ch 12 & 13	Week 5: Sep 22 & 24
Health Insurance	Ch 15 & 16	Week 6: Sep 29 & Oct 1
Income Distribution and Welfare Programs	Ch 17	Week 7: Oct 6 & 8
Exam 2 (Chapters 12, 13, 15, 16, 17)		Week 8: Oct 13 & 15

Taxation: How it works and its implications	Ch 18 & 19	Week 9: Oct 20 & 22
Tax Inefficiencies, Optimal taxation, and effects on labor supply	Ch 20 & 21	Week 10: Oct 27 & 29
Exam 3 (Chapters 18, 19, 20, 21)		Week 11: Nov 3 & 5
Taxes on Savings and effects on Risk Taking	Ch 22 & 23	Week 12: Nov 10 & 12
Taxation of Business Income and Tax Reform	Ch 24 & 25	Week 13: Nov 17 & 19
Work on Group Projects		Week 14: Nov 24
Last Week of Class: Group Presentations		Week 15: Dec 1 & 3
Final Exam (Chapters 22, 23, 24, 25)	Final Exam	Dec 10, 7:45 am-10:15 am