

Fulbright Economics Teaching Program

Master of Public Policy

2015-2017

Summer Semester

4 July – 30 August, 2016

Syllabus

Public Governance

Teaching Team

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Office hour

Pham Duy Nghia: Every Friday
Huỳnh Ngọc Chuong: Mon and Wed, 15:30-17:00

Overview

This is a compulsory course of the MPP which lasts for ½ semester in 18 sessions, including 14 lectures and 4 sessions for presentation and discussion of students' report assignment (30 Aug, 2016). Each lecture consists of two teaching units, each of which is 45 minutes. In addition, students are required to read materials for each lecture, search for a topic of the report assignment and do research under instruction of the teaching team (it is expected to read about 50 pages on average for each lecture).

Contribution to the learning outcomes of the MPP program

This course is designed for civil servants, public policy researchers and those in private sectors who are interested in public policies. Upon completion of the course, students are expected to gain:

Regarding *knowledge*, students are expected to identify the stakeholders in public governance (participating the central or local government) and the way they affect public governance. The key stakeholders include people and organizations, alliances, networks, media, businesses, organizations and associations and the elected agencies. Students will discuss main topics in public governance, including the structure of public administration, the principles of resource governance for public sector such as human power and finance as well as the principles of effectiveness and efficiency measurement in public governance.

In terms of *skills*, students are required to practice their own management skills, read and discuss the topics suggested by the instructor, select a topic for the report assignment, find information and data for the report and share perspectives and experiences of their own or their offices in class discussion. Students also practice writing (incl.05 policy memos), discussion and public speaking skill. Students may conduct a field trip at a local administration office, subject to the school budget, to have a sense of the current pressures on public administration.

With regard to *attitude*, students are expected to be aware of the fast-changing economic, political and social context of public governance as well as the increasing demand and expectation of people which create pressures on new changes in the public sector. As a would-be public policy researcher or practitioner, each student will be more responsible to all stakeholders when making or implementing a

policy. The course highlights the objective, fair responsibility to the voters, community and nation of the policy researcher and practitioners.

Readings

Students are required to read six book chapters in English and some book chapters translated into Vietnamese:

- Tony Bovaird & Elke Löffler, 2009, *Public Management and Governance*, Routledge, Chapter **1, 2, 15, 16, 19**
- Asia Development Bank (ADB), 2003, *The Role of Public Administration in Alleviating Poverty and Improving Governance*.
- Francis Fukuyama, 2004, *State-Building: Governance and World Order in the 21st Century*, Cornell University Press, Chapter **1, 2**
- David Baron, *Business and its Environment*, Stanford University 2010, Introduction

There are other readings and case studies in Vietnamese for specific classes (mostly in pdf including legal documents in each class).

Requirements

It is expected that students read the assigned readings before class as indicated in this syllabus, actively participate in class discussions and join one of the four discussion groups to complete individual report assignment.

Grades will be determined by:

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Weight</u>
- Class participation:	10%
- 05 reflection papers on the readings:	40%
- 01 final essay:	50%
o Outline, Presentation and discussion in seminar:	10%
o Report write-up	40%

1) *Class participation, 10%*

This course combines lecture and discussion. The duration for discussion will be increasing towards the end of the course. Students will be graded by their preparation before class and discussion in class.

2) *Reflection papers on readings, 40 %*

There are 5 reflection papers on readings. Submission in pdf and hard copy as required by FETP Student handbook.

3) *Teamwork, Outline, Presentation and final essay, 50 % total grade*

Apply knowledge learnt to the field or sector where students are working, each student nominates one topic of policy to participate in four areas of discussion, each area will be assigned to not more than 15 students. The memo should be within at least 10 A4-pages length, or from 10,000 words (+/-10%). Discussion topics will be in the following four areas:

- Evaluate policies that help enhance grassroots democracy, public and business participation in local policies, example: supervision of local planning, budgeting, and public investment
- Evaluate policies that help enhance business sector participation, especially private sector, in central and local government economic policies, lobbying channels, dialogue between business and government.
- Evaluate policies that help enhance transparent government, right to access to information of people, freedom of the press and monitoring government by civil society; discussion of recent events, role of Facebook and social media.
- Assess measurement of public governance performance, policy draft and recommendation to the public sector, performance of the public servants, and policies on preventing and fighting against corruption.

Timelines of the assignment will be informed during the course: (i) topic submission, (ii) detailed outline submission, (iii) Power Point presentation submission, and (iv) report write-up submission. In general, there will be about 30 days to improve and submit the report after the presentation. The report write-up should meet the academic requirements of a public policy research paper. Deadline of submission is 30 Sept. 2016, in electric form and hard copy as required by FETP.

Schedule

	PART I: Public Governance: Concept and Relationship with Development
G-1	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall introduction - Course requirements <p>Required Readings:</p> <p>Daron Acemoglu, <i>What makes a country rich?</i> MIT (2009)</p> <p>Tony Bovaird & Elke Löffler, Chapter 1</p>
G-2	<p>Concept of Public Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Governance vs. State Management - The Cores of Public Governance - Introduction of WGI, PAPI, and Justice Index <p>Required Readings:</p> <p>Tony Bovaird & Elke Löffler, Chapter 13, 15.</p>
G-3	<p>Government's functions: Relationship between Public Governance and Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requirements of good governance - Measurement of Public Governance Quality - Relationship between Public Governance and sustainable development

	<p>Required Readings: Fukuyama (2004), <i>Chapter 1</i></p>
G-4	<p>Issues of Importing Modern Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of Institution Importation - Conditions for Successful Transplantation of Institution <p>Required Readings: Fukuyama (2004), <i>Chapter 2</i></p>
PART II: Public Administration and Accountability	
G-5	<p>Democracy, Mandate and Functions of People Representative Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legitimacy of Government - Overview of representative democracy - Legislative power - Functions of people elected bodies <p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training Center for Elected Representatives (2010), Representative role: Maintaining the lifeline with voters
G-6	<p>Central Government Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accountability perspectives - Perspective of effective and efficient government - Administration, civil servant and bureaucracy <p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phạm Duy Nghĩa (2014): Accountability
G-7	<p>Local Government Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of local and regional governments - Delegation and decentralization <p>Required Readings:</p> <p>ADB (2003), Chapters 4, 5, 8</p>
G-8	<p>Government resources management: Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Budgeting: policy analysis point of view - Management of enterprises with state capital - Public procurement <p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open Budget Survey 2015 http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/open-budget-initiative/open-budget-survey/

G-9	<p>Policy Toward Public Officials and Civil Servants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public officials and civil servants: Overview of right and obligations - Recruitment, assessment, and training <p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ADB (2003), <i>Chapters 10-12</i> - <i>Legal documents: Law on Cadres and civil servants (2009), Law on Public officials (2011)</i>
PART III: PEOPLE PARTICIPATION	
G-10	<p>Overview of Public Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concept and overview of public participation channels in government operation - Promoting cooperation - Social critical feedbacks by Fatherland Front <p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ADB (2003), <i>Chapters 13-14</i> - Tony Bovaird and Elke Löffler, Ch. 15-16
G-11	<p>Monitoring Government by People Representative Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Constituency, public elected agency and its monitoring activities - Effectiveness and legal consequences of public elected agency monitoring <p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - British Embassy & MEC (2013), <i>Response level of public agencies to individual and organizational complaints, criticism and proposals</i>, Research report - Tony Bovaird and Elke Löffler, Ch. 19
G-12	<p>Civil Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civil society notion - Measuring civil society in Vietnam <p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ADB (2003), <i>Chapter 15</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lê Quang Bình and partners, <i>Green Campaign Report: preserving #6700 trees in Hanoi</i>, Hồng Đức Publisher, 2016 http://isee.org.vn/Content/Home/Library/473/bao-cao-phong-trao-6700-bao-ve-cay-xanh-o-ha-noi..pdf - Lê Quang Bình and partners, <i>Marking the civil social space in Vietnam</i>, Hồng Đức Publisher, 2016 (ISEE)
G-13	<p>Enterprises and Government: The role of business association to policy-making process</p> <p>David Baron, <i>Business and its Environment</i>, Stanford University (2010), Introduction (Overview)</p>

<p>G-14</p>	<p>Access to Information: Building a Transparent Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demand for Information - Right to access information of the public - Government obligation toward information access <p>Required readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joseph Stiglitz (2006), <i>Transparency in government</i>, in World Bank, <i>The right to tell: the role of mass media in economic development</i>, Culture and Information Publishing House, pp. 33-55 - ADB (2003) Chapter 16 - Law on information access (2016), http://towardstransparency.vn/vi/viet-nam-can-ap-dung-cac-tieu-chuan-quoc-te-de-thuc-su-bao-ve-quyen-tiep-can-thong-tin-cua-nguoi-dan
	<p>PART IV: Policy Options and Recommendations, and student presentations (group seminar)</p>
<p>Morning</p>	<p>Evaluate policies that help enhance grassroots democracy, public and business participation in local policies, example, supervision of local planning, budgeting, and public investment</p>
<p>Afternoon</p>	<p>Evaluate policies that help enhance business sector participation, especially private sector, in central and local government economic policies, lobbying channels, dialogue between business and government.</p>
<p>Morning</p>	<p>Evaluate policies that help enhance transparent government, right to access to information of people, freedom of the press and monitoring government by civil society; discussion of recent events, role of Facebook and social media.</p>
<p>Afternoon</p>	<p>Assess measurement of public governance performance, policy draft and recommendation to the public sector, performance of the public servants, and policies on preventing and fighting against corruption.</p>