

COMPARATIVE GOVERNANCE

COURSE SYLLABY

LECTURER: LIVIU RADU, PhD.

The general objectives of the course:

1. Understanding and using the comparative approach as a research method in public administration.
2. Understanding the specific characteristics of the public sector.
3. Understanding the interactions between various institutions from the public sector and between them and the private or not-for-profit sector in order to solve the needs of human communities.
4. Improve analytical and communicational skills.

Specific objectives of the course

1. Understanding the various historical models and approaches in public administration and learn to adapt institutions, tools and procedures to Romanian or other contexts.
2. Analyze, understand and offer solutions to issues related to public institutions or public sector in general, or to not-for-profit or private organizations involved in public affairs.
3. Understanding the concept of governance and its possible application to Romanian public administration.

Course nr. 1. The concepts of government, public administration, bureaucracy, public management, public policy, governance. Neoweberianism. The comparative approach. (one week, two hours)

Bibliography: Lynn, L.E., *Public Management*, in Peters, G.B., Pierre, Jon, *The Handbook of Public Administration*, SAGE Publications, 2012.

Exercises: Compare the following concepts. Comment on similarities and differences. Public administration/bureaucracy; bureaucracy/(public) management; public administration/public management; public administration/public policy; public management/governance.

Course nr.2. The concept of power. Definitions. Forms of power. Characteristics of power. Power in society. Power in institutions. The power budget. Politics. Authority. Legitimacy. (one week, two hours).

Bibliography: Sadan, E., *Empowerment and Community Planning, chapter 1: Theories of Power*, pp. 33-73.

Exercises: Imagine a case of budget of power; Present or imagine a case of manipulation; Present or imagine a case of persuasion; Present or imagine a case in which the internal effect of power is achieved; Compare legitimacy with legality.

Course nr.3 Game theory.

Bibliography: Osborne, M.J., *A Course in Game Theory*, Massachusetts Institute for Technology, 1994 (On Google books). (one week, two hours)

Exercises: Compare “fix sum games” with “variable sum games”; Present or imagine a case in which the “chicken” game is used; Present or imagine a case in which “the war between sexes” is used; Present or imagine a case in which Nash equilibrium is used.

Course nr.4. Theoretical aspects related to governance. (one week, two hours)

Bibliography: Bevir, M., *Introduction: Theories of Governance*, in Bevir, M., *Public Governance*, SAGE Publications, 2011, (p.xlv-lxii).

Exercises: to be approached at courses 7-12.

Course nr. 5: Organizations. Administrative communication. (one week, two hours)

Bibliography: Peters, Guy B., *The Politics of Bureaucracy*, Rutledge, London, 2001, chapter 4, pp. 150-165. Starling, Grover, *Managing the Public Sector*, Harcourt Brace College Publishers, San Diego 1998, pp. 303 – 307, 320-324. O’Toole, Laurence J. Jr., *Interorganizational Communication: Opportunities and Challenges for Public Organization*, in Garnett, James L., *Handbook of Administrative Communication*, Marcel Dekker, 1997, pp. 61-78. (On Google books).

Exercises: Present an example in which a traditional organization is transformed in a matrix one; imagine an example in which a traditional organization is transformed in a team organization; design an intraorganizational communication strategy; design a communication strategy with the public.

Course nr. 6. The principal-agent model. (one week, two hours)

Bibliography: Hood, Christopher, Oliver, James, Peters, Guy P., Scott, Collin, *Controlling modern government. Variety, commonality and change*, Edward Elgar, 2004, pp. 3-21. Lane,

Jan-Erik, *Comparative politics. The Principal-Agent perspective*, Routledge. Taylor&Francis Group, 2008, pp.1-31.

Exercises: Present solutions to improve the control of the public over parliament, present solutions to improve the control of the parliament over the government; analyze one of the sources of bureaucratic power: how it works; analyze one of the means of control over bureaucracy that politicians poses.

Course nr. 7: The principal agent model at national level. The process of agentification (Quango's). (1 week, two hours).

Bibliography: Verhoest, Koen et all, *Autonomy and Control of State Agencies. Comparing States and Agencies*, Palgrave MacMillan, 2010, chapter 2: Central Concepts, pp. 17-28. **Rhodes, R.A.W.**, *Reinventing Whitehall, 1979-1995: Hollowing out the state?*, in **Kickert, Walter J.M.**, *Public Management and Administrative Reform in Western Europe*, Edward Elgar 2001, pp. 41-58.

Exercises: Briefly present an example of national agency (Romanian or foreign); what is its role, how it is working with the supraordinate structure – how the four activities needed in governance are realized.

Course nr.8: Governance at sub-national level. Intergovernmental relations. (one week, two hours).

Bibliography: Felker, Lon S., Trogen Paul C., *Regionalization. A European Survey*, in **Farzmand Ali**, *Handbook of Comparative and Development Public Administration*, Marcel Dekker, 2001, chapter 17, pp. 223-237. **John, Peter**, *Local Governance in Western Europe*, SAGE Publications, 2001, chapter 2: *Local Government Systems in Western Europe*, pp. 25-39.

Exercises: Briefly analyze a national policy that is coordinated from federal or national level in a decentralized setting; – how the four activities needed in governance are realized.

Course nr.9 The principal – agent model at local level. Local Quango's (one week, two hours)

Bibliography: **Kevin R. Kosar**, *The Quasi Government: Hybrid Organizations with Both Government and Private Sector Legal Characteristics*, U.S. Congressional Research Service, 2011. **Deirdre Cummings, Phineas Baxandall, Ph.D., Kari Wohlschlegel**, *Out of the Shadows Massachusetts Quasi-Public Agencies and the Need for Budget Transparency*, MASSPIRG Education Found, 2010

Exercises: Briefly analyze or imagine a case of local Quango; – how the four activities needed in governance are realized.

Course nr. 10: Governance at sub-national level: public private partnership and the use of NGO's in public administration.

Bibliography: Akintoye, Akintola, Beck, Mathias and Hardcastle, Cliff, *Public-Private Partnership. Managing risk and opportunity*, Blackwell Science Ltd., Oxford, 2003, pp. 3-19. Lascoumes, Pierre, Le Gales, Patrick, *Interest Groups and Public Organizations in Europe*, in Peters, Guy B., Pierre, Jon, *Handbook of Public Administration*, Sage Publication, London, 2002, pp. 321-330.

Exercises: Briefly analyze a project realized through PPP; – how the four activities needed in governance are realized.

Course nr. 10: Governance at multi-national level. The case of European Union.

Bibliography: Metcalfe, L., *The European Commission as a Network Organization*, Publius. Philadelphia: Fall 1996. Vol.26, Iss.4; pp.43-20. Benz, Arthur, Papadopoulos, Yannis, *Governance and democracy. Comparing national, European and international experiences*, Routledge. Taylor and Francis Group, pp. 99-112.

Exercises: Analyze one of the European Union policies; – how the four activities needed in governance are realized.

Course no. 11: E-governance.

Bibliography: Eifert, Martin, Puschel, Jan, Ole, *National Electronic Governance. Comparing Governance Structures in Multi-layer Administrations*, Routledge, Taylor&Francis Group, 2004, chapter 9, pp. 243 - 261.

Exercises: Briefly present a case in which IT means are used for administrative tasks; – how the four activities needed in governance are realized.

Evaluation:

Evaluation:

Class presence and activity: 2 pct.

Paper presented in the class – 1 pct.

Paper uploaded on moodle – 3 pct.

Final exam – 3 pct.

The paper presented in the class will consist of a short presentation or analysis of one of the topics from the “exercises” part from one of the courses, chosen at the free will of the students. This paper will be presented in the class and it will be uploaded on the moodle platform one day previous to the presentation. This paper cannot be presented in the last class of the semester.

The final paper will consist in a draft presentation (5 page) of case study. The paper will be uploaded on the moodle platform at least with 24 hours previous to the exam. The case study will have the following structure:

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Brief theoretical part**
- 3. Brief legislation part (if needed).**
- 4. The presentation of the case study.**
- 5. Conclusion**
- 6. Bibliography.**

The test will consist of ten questions from the content of the paper and from related theoretical or practical issues. The test will analyze the relevance of the topic of the paper, the understanding of the issue and the capacity of the student to provide solutions.