

**Public Economics Group**

**Tim Friehe**

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**Public Economics (course announcement)**

Lecturer: Tim Friehe ([tim.friehe@uni-marburg.de](mailto:tim.friehe@uni-marburg.de))  
Time & Place: Tuesday, 16-18; Am Plan 1, starts October 15  
Tutor: Cat Lam Pham ([phamc@staff.uni-marburg.de](mailto:phamc@staff.uni-marburg.de))  
Tutorial: Wednesday, 14-16; Am Plan 2; starts October 16  
Bonus: There will be an ILIAS test (February 5) in which you can earn up to 12 bonus points for the exam (conditional on passing).  
Grading: Exam at the end of the term (120 minutes).

**Description:**

Public Economics deals with the activity of the state. The state raises funds and spends it on different activities. This course will address some basic aspects of Public Economics.

**Contents:**

1. Introduction
2. Public Policy Objectives
3. Competitive equilibrium
4. Public goods
5. Externalities
6. Asymmetric information
7. Taxation

**Materials:**

Materials will be provided in ILIAS.

**References:**

The course will heavily rely on:

Hindriks, J. and G. Myles, 2013. Intermediate Public Economics. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Other useful books include:

Gruber, J., 2019. Public Finance and Public Policy. 6th edition. New York: Worth Publishing.

Leach, J., 2004. A Course in Public Economics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Myles, G., 1995. Public Economics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Salanié, B., 2011. The Economics of Taxation. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Silvestre, J., 2012. Public Microeconomics – Efficiency and Equity in Public Policy. Edward Elgar.

Tresch, R.W., 2015. Public Finance – A Normative Theory. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Amsterdam: Elsevier.

**This syllabus may be updated.**

**This version: October 7, 2024**