



UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
ELECTIVE 4 - PUBLIC POLICIES AND BUDGET MANAGEMENT

Academic Year 2026/2027

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences

2. Course

ECONOMICS

3. Cycle

1st

4. Course Unit

ELECTIVE 4 - PUBLIC POLICIES AND BUDGET MANAGEMENT (03373)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

3rd

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

2nd Semester



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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:

Practical classes:

Theoretical-Practical Classes 30,00

Tutorial Guidance: 20,00

9. ECTS Credits

6,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutora GRACIETE ROSA CALADO AFONSO MATIAS FRANCO

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Português

14. General Objectives

The course unit aims to:

- Understand the role of the State in the economy and society, the organisation of the Portuguese public sector and changes in public administration.
- Analyse public policy formulation, implementation and evaluation, considering actors, instruments and contexts.
- Understand and apply public budget management principles and instruments, linking resource allocation to public policy delivery and accountability.

15. Specific Objectives

By the end of the unit, students should be able to:

- Explain State intervention, governance and participation.
- Describe Portugal's public sector, administrative reform and innovation.
- Apply theories and models to analyse public policy stages in Portugal.
- Interpret budgetary principles, rules and cycles, revenue, expenditure, balance, execution and amendments.
- Understand the Budgetary Framework Law and public sector accounting standardisation.

16. Skills to be acquired



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Upon completion of the course unit, students should have developed the following competencies:

- Interpret public organisations' actions, State-economy-society relations, administrative reform and innovation.
- Understand policy process theories and analyse public policy stages.
- Analyse budget forecasts and execution and interpret variances against the budget.
- Distinguish budgetary control mechanisms and the role of public sector accounting in transparency and accountability.

17. Teaching Methodology

The unit combines theory and practice through concepts, documents, case studies and examples from Portugal. Debates, exercises and individual or group assignments develop critical analysis of the State, administrative reform and public policy, and the application of public budget management principles and instruments. Independent study is supported by recommended reading and materials on Moodle.

18. Course Unit Program

1. The State and Public Action
 - 1.1. The role of the State in the economy and society.
 - 1.2. Governance and civil society participation.
 - 1.3. Characteristics and challenges of public organisations.
2. The administrative organisation of the portuguese public sector, reform and innovation
 - 2.1. The portuguese public sector: scope and structure.
 - 2.2. The different types of public organisations.
 - 2.3. Administrative reform processes: concept and scope.
 - 2.4. Administrative reform and innovation in Portugal.
3. Public Policy: Concept and Cycle
 - 3.1. Fundamental concepts and typologies of public policy.
 - 3.2. The public policy cycle.
 - 3.3. Theoretical approaches and analytical models.
 - 3.4. Case studies: economic, social and environmental policies in Portugal.
4. Public budget management, execution and control
 - 4.1. Budgetary principles and rules.
 - 4.2. The budget cycle: preparation, approval, execution and control.
 - 4.3. Public revenue and expenditure. The budget balance.
 - 4.4. Budget execution and amendments.
 - 4.5. Budget classification systems.
 - 4.6. The Budgetary Framework Law.
 - 4.7. Public sector accounting standardisation in Portugal.

19. Assessment Methods



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The Supplementary Regulations for the Assessment of Knowledge and Competencies in force shall apply. Continuous assessment must include oral contributions throughout the teaching period and a final written test, each with a weighting factor of 3. It may also include other assessment components, as specified in the relevant Continuous Assessment Plan.

20. Didactic Resources

Teaching resources include presentations and supporting materials prepared by the lecturer, recommended reading, academic articles, institutional and regulatory documents, as well as case studies and/or practical exercises. Resources from official sources will be used to support public policy analysis and an understanding of public budget management in Portugal. Supporting materials and guidance for independent study will be made available on Moodle.

21. Sustainability Objectives

SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: understand the role of institutions, participation, transparency and accountability in governance.

SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities: analyse how public policies and resource allocation help reduce inequalities and promote inclusion.

SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production: reflect on the efficient and responsible use of public resources and sustainability in public decision-making.

22. Keywords

State
Public Administration
Administrative Reform
Public Policy
Public Budget Management



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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): Catarino, J. R.
Title: Finanças públicas e direito financeiro
Edition: 10.^a ed. Year: 2025
Local:
Publisher: Almedina
ISBN Code: 9789894029533

Author(s): Hill, M., & Varone, F.
Title: The public policy process
Edition: 8th ed. Year: 2021
Local:
Publisher: Routledge
ISBN Code: 9780367445348

Author(s): Quadros, E., & Santos, R. T.
Title: Administração e gestão pública
Edition: Year: 2022
Local:
Publisher: Almedina
ISBN Code: 9789894003717

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): Reis, P. dos, & Borralho, C.
Title: Aprenda SNC-AP com casos práticos
Edition: 2.^a ed. Year: 2024
Local:
Publisher: Edições Sílabo
ISBN Code: 9789895613830

Author(s): Rocha, J. O.
Title: Gestão pública e modernização administrativa
Edition: 1.^a ed. Year: 2014
Local:
Publisher: INA
ISBN Code: 9788988096265



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Autor / Author	Prof. Doutora GRACIETE ROSA CALADO AFONSO MATIAS FRANCO
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