# Analysis of Public Policies

## Prof. Silvio Cotellessa

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to illustrate the theoretical methods and tools that characterise the analysis of public policies. In addition to providing a general framework of the research traditions from which studies on public policies originate, the course aims to highlight the most relevant issues that today play a key role in the study of public policies.

*Knowledge and understanding*

The main training objective of the course consists in the ability to understand the importance of public policies in the decisions of contemporary governments, starting from local administrations and including the analysis of broader *policy-making* processes within the international organisations, with special reference to the policies of the European Union.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to use the specific terminology of public policies, with particular regard to the use of the main concepts that constitute the essential baggage of *policy* analysts, whose language and skills nowadays range from consultancy required by research centres to collaborations with newspapers and new media.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course is divided in three parts:

1. The study of political actors: social movements, political parties, and pressure groups in the organisation of interests.
2. The analysis of public policies: the policy cycle from the formulation of the agenda to decision.
3. The study of public policies between the local government and the European Union.

***READING LIST***

*Attending students* are required to study the notes and materials provided in class.

For *non-attending students*, an in-depth study of the following reading list is required:

M. Howlett e M. Ramesh, *Come studiare le politiche pubbliche*, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2003.

L. Bobbio, G. Pomatto, S. Ravazzi, *Le politiche pubbliche. Problemi, soluzioni, incertezze, conflitti*, Milan, Mondadori, 2017.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The Course will consist of frontal and interactive lectures, held in class, aimed at the preparation of the final exam.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Attending students will take two separate and complementary tests: the first part of the test consists of a class Powerpoint presentation on course topics. Assessment is worth 50% of the final mark. The second part of the exam consists of an oral test based on lecture notes and material provided in class. It will count 50% of the final mark. Students who did not attend the course will take an oral test based on the course reading list. The overall aim of the exam is to assess students on accuracy of their answers, their understanding and command of topics studied, together with their ability to summarise and apply the study of specific cases as well as use of appropriate terminology in the field of public politics.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The course requires the knowledge of basic elements of political science*.*

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.