

GLASSBORO STATE COLLEGE  
Glassboro, New Jersey

Course Proposal

I. Identification of the Proposal

- A. Name - Economics of the Public Sector
- B. Sponsors - Dr. Eva Aronfreed, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Political Science/Economics; Professor Francis Peacock and Dr. Peter Kressler, Associate Professors of Economics

II. Statement from the Department Chairperson

This course is proposed as an undergraduate elective to expand the economic offerings of the Department, and as a support course for students in Administrative Studies. It is anticipated that the course will first be offered in the Spring Semester fo 1973-1974 by Dr. Peter Kressler.

Present library holdings are adequate and in the process of being expanded.

III. Outline of the Proposal

A. Essence of the proposal

1. Course title - Economics of the Public Sector
2. Semester hours of credit - 3
3. Course level and prerequisites - undergraduate, with no prerequisites
4. Current curricula pattern into which it falls - free elective
5. Enrollment - 30

B. Details of the Proposal

1. Specific objectives of the course -

- a. To explain the theory of public expenditures and taxation
- b. To assess its impact
- c. To explore future policies for the efficient allocation of resources as well as for economic stability and growth

2. Scope of the course - This course will examine the theory of public expenditures and taxation as well as its ramifications upon: national production and income, national standard of living, distribution of wealth and income, the financial markets, and particular localities, industries, and econmic groups.

a. Introduction - public sector economics in its political setting

1. nature of the study of public sector economics
2. public sector v. private sector
3. government structure in the U.S.
4. government taxing power

b. Fiscal administration

1. conventional budgets
2. cash budgets
3. government receipts and expenditures in the national income accounts

c. Fiscal policy and the level of economic activity

1. measurement of the aggregate level of economic activity
2. determination of the rate of economic activity
3. income inducing effects of fiscal policy

d. Fiscal instruments to promote economic stability

1. public expenditures
2. government borrowings
3. taxes and other revenues

e. Public expenditures

1. trends
2. intensive expansion of governmental functions
3. extensive expansion of governmental functions
4. attitudes towards
5. control of
6. allocation of resources between public and private sectors

f. Public debt

1. its nature
2. its management
3. its monetization
4. its burden

g. Public and commercial revenues

1. gifts
2. grants
3. administrative revenues
4. government business enterprises' revenues

h. Taxes

1. allocation of tax burden
2. incidence of
3. personal income tax
4. corporation income tax
5. sales tax
6. death and gift tax
7. property tax

i. What is the proper determination of appropriate measures for expenditure programs? for raising funds?

3. Teaching methods

Lecture and classroom discussion  
Current fiscal policy news

4. Evaluation

Each student will prepare concise responses to selected questions/ topics from time to time, and will sit for a mid-term as well as a final exam.

C. Rationale

This proposed course is standard fare in the field of economics; it would also be appropriate for students in Administrative Studies, Urban Studies, Political Science, Educational Administration, Secondary Social Studies Teaching, and Economics when it becomes a major.

D. Consultation

Consultation between Professors Peacock, Hitchner, Kressler and Aronfreed of this department has indicated the necessity of such a course for economic majors and as a support course for majors in Political Science and Administrative Studies.

Dr. Pritchard, of Administrative Studies, has reviewed the course proposal, and has stated the following:

"The proposed course, Economics of the Public Sector, is designed to provide background in the area of theory of public taxation and expenditure. The course will complement the current economics offerings and may be an attractive elective to Administrative Studies students who specialize in the field of finance."