

67513 - Public decisions: e-participation and managing knowledge

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2024/25

Subject: 67513 - Public decisions: e-participation and managing knowledge

Faculty / School: 109 - Facultad de Economía y Empresa

Degree: 523 - Master's in Sociology of Public and Social Policy

ECTS: 4.0

Year: 1

Semester: First semester

Subject type: Optional

Module:

1. General information

The general objective of the subject is to provide scientific rigor to the decisional process followed in public decision making. The combination of tangible and intangible aspects, the consideration of multiple scenarios, actors and criteria and a cognitive orientation of the decisional processes are some of the characteristics of the decisional paradigm followed in the subject. The cognitive orientation given to the subject, always from a holistic and evolutionary perspective, is in line with the new requirements and needs of the so-called Knowledge Society.

The interdependencies between the actors involved in solving the problem and the emotional and intangible aspects associated with the key factor of the Knowledge Society, the human factor, are some of the issues addressed in the subject. The creation, dissemination and management of knowledge and the cognitive orientation given to the exploitation of the mathematical model considered are some of the aspects that characterize the meaning given to the subject.

2. Learning results

- The student should know the fundamentals of scientific public decision making. Specifically, the concepts of problems, processes, people, and decisional paradigms
- The student should know the different stages considered in the processes of modelling public decisions, including the construction of mental, structural, formal and resolution models
- The student should be familiar with different analytical tools (normative and descriptive) used in scientific decision making and in the evaluation of public systems. In particular, some deterministic (optimization) and stochastic (under uncertainty and with risk) models for decision making, and some proposals for evaluating the efficiency, effectiveness and efficiency of systems
- The student should be familiar with different decision-making techniques with multiple stakeholders and criteria. These techniques, in combination with ICTs, will be applied in public decisions related to the governance of society (e-government and citizen participation)
- The student should understand the meaning of knowledge management in public administrations

3. Syllabus

Topic 1: Fundamentals of Public Decision Making

1.1 Presentation

1.2 Problems and decisional processes

1.3 Rationality paradigms

1.4 Modelling

1.5 Case studies

Topic 2: Analytical and IT tools

2.1 Deterministic models

2.2 Stochastic models

2.3 Statistical analysis of decisions

2.4 Multi-criteria decision analysis

2.5 Computer tools

Topic 3: E-government. E-participation

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Knowledge Society
- 3.3 E-government and Citizen Participation
- 3.4 E-administration and e-governance
- 3.5 E-democracy and e-cognocracy
- Topic 4: E-participation experiences
- 4.1 E-participation
- 4.2 Participatory budgeting
- 4.3 Location of services
- 4.4 Design of public policies
- 4.5 Real cases
- Topic 5: Public Knowledge Management
- 5.1 Introduction.
- 5.2 From data to knowledge
- 5.3 Content management platforms
- 5.4 Social networks. Basic concepts
- 5.5 Social network analysis. Representation and metrics

4. Academic activities

The following training activities are planned:

Training activity - hours - attendance

Personal work 48 - 0

Theoretical and practical classroom sessions 27 - 100

Case studies. Software and applications 10 - 80

Presentation, discussion and defence of work 5 - 100

Group work tutoring 10 - 0

In principle, the teaching methodology is planned to be based on face-to-face classes. However, if necessary for health reasons, face-to-face classes may be given in a blended or online format. The necessary software will be used to check the originality of the activities carried out. The detection of plagiarism or copying in an activity will result in a grade of 0 points for that activity

5. Assessment system

There will be a global evaluation test at the end of the subject, which will include theoretical and practical questions on the contents seen throughout it. A minimum of 5 out of 10 points is required to pass the test. In order to facilitate the evaluation of the subject, it will be allowed to eliminate the contents in the individual and group tests throughout the term, according to the following structure and evaluation:

- Individual assignments (maximum three), with a maximum grade of 40% of the final grade. These individual assignments will include a reflection on one of the decisional topics raised in class and the application of the tools seen in class.

- A group work (up to 60% of the grade) in which all the analytical and computer tools seen throughout the subject are applied in a practical case as real as possible. Finally, voluntary papers on topics related to the subject will be allowed. These assignments may increase the final grade by a maximum of 10%. It is foreseen that these tests will be carried out in person, but if health circumstances require it, they will be carried out in a blended or online manner. In the case of online evaluation, it is important to note that, in any test, the student may be recorded, and may exercise their rights by the procedure indicated in: https://protecciondatos.unizar.es/sites/protecciondatos.unizar.es/files/users/lop/dgdocencia_reducida.pdf.

6. Sustainable Development Goals

- 10 - Reduction of Inequalities
- 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 17 - Partnerships for the Goals