

## **(ECON-651) Topics in Public Sector Economics**

### **Course Description**

This course analyses the economic rationale for collective choice and government intervention in the economy. It explores and evaluates the government's ability to identify and achieve "better" (more efficient or more equitable) outcomes. The material consists of two parts. The first establishes the justification for and the limitations of government intervention in a market economy. In order to secure a better understanding of this theory and its practical application, the second part of the course applies this analysis to a variety of public policy programs. These programs include social insurance, anti-poverty, education, health as well as regulation and competition policy.

### ***Recommended Books***

Jean Hindriks and Gareth Myles (2006) *Intermediate Public Economics*, MIT

David N. Hyman (1999), *Public Finance: A Contemporary Application of Theory to Policy*, 6th edition, Dryden Press

Gareth Myles (1995), *Public Economics*, Cambridge University Press

Harvey S. Rosen and Ted Gayer (2007), *Public Finance*, 8th Edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin

Joseph Stiglitz (2000), *Economics of the Public Sector*, 3rd Edition, Norton

Jonathan Gruber (2005), *Public Finance and Public Policy*, 1st edition, Worth Publishers.