(GPP 813) Public Finance

Pre-requisites: None

Learning objectives

This course is aimed at developing a critical understanding of fiscal policy including tax

and expenditure law and policy concerning how to fund government effectively. It

examines the key challenges of fiscal policy in achieving sufficient revenues, economic

prosperity and development and in addressing social justice and inequality in a context

of globalisation. This course focuses on the mechanism of functioning of modern public

finance.

Learning outcomes

After completing the course, students should be able to:

Demonstrate a good understanding of the fiscal framework for taxing and

spending and of fiscal policy principles

Analyse critically tax reforms and policy choices in developed and developing

countries

Present in depth written analysis of key issues and challenges in fiscal policy in a

particular development or country context

Identify the types of public needs and the mechanisms of their financing

Classify public revenues and expenditures through the budget and to analyze the

instruments and objectives of budgetary policy

Course Contents

Review of the Public Finance Reforms, Budgeting and Performance Evaluation in Public

Sector Organizations, Intergovernmental Financial Relationships; Public goods in theory

and practice, Social Security and Social Insurance, Types, Incidences, And

Consequences of Taxation, Tax principles relevant to development: efficiency,

distributive justice, administration, Sources of Governmental Income; Governmental

1

Expenditures And Their Effect; Public Economic Enterprises; Public Borrowing; Fiscal Deficit and Public Debt, Debt Management And Its Economic Effect

Text books

- 1. Holcombe, R. G. (2006). Public sector economics: The role of government in the American economy. Prentice Hall.
- 2. Gruber, J. (2005). Public finance and public policy. Macmillan.
- 3. Tanzi V., Schuknecht L. (2000), Public Spending in 20-th Century: A Global Perspective. N.Y.: Cambridge University Press