

PPE IN PRACTICE

Interdisciplinary and Applied Topics in PPE

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Context

- P1 and P2 Students Complete 4 disciplinary courses: Philosophy, Politics, Economics, Math.
- P3 Students complete 'PPE in Practice Course' (PIP).
- PIP **combines** disciplinary courses and **applies** the theories to a policy issue.
- There are 5 PIP courses in the programme, every period 3 and 6 except in the 5th semester.

Example: PIP 2 'Valuing the Future'

- Time discounting tells us how much (less) things are worth in the future and is used in pension and climate change calculations.
- Students use time discounting to inform policy proposals for pension and climate reform.

Other PIP Topics

- Amsterdam Housing, Overpopulation, Smoking Cessation, Immigration, Animal Testing, Welfare Reform

De Groot, Overeem, & Collewet		PIP I: Wellbeing, Politics Markets							
POL/ECO		Mon		Tues		Wed		Thurs	Fri
Week 1	9 - 11	public policy & ethics I		welfare economics I		research design			English Writing 1
Assignment: Individual Essay	11 - 13	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3		Poster Presenting 1
	13 - 15	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4		
	15 - 17								
	17 - 19								
Week 2	9 - 11	public policy & ethics II		welfare economics II		interdisciplinarity			
Assignment: Policy Posers	11 - 13	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3		Policy Paper Lecture
	13 - 15	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4		Policy Paper Workshop
	15 - 17	Essay Due							
	17 - 19								
Week 3	9 - 11	growth & poverty		globalisation		guest lecture		Poster Presentations (PPE Study Area, 9-11)	
Assignment: Policy Presentation	11 - 13	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3	Sem Group 1	Sem Group 3	Student Conference for PIP 3 (4A-00, 12-15)	
	13 - 15	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4	Sem Group 2	Sem Group 4		
	15 - 17								
	17 - 19								
Week 4		Group Work							
Assignment Final Policy Paper									Project Due

3 Modules

- Lecture/Seminar (Green)
- Group Work (Grey)
- English Instruction (Gold)

3 Assignments (Red)

- Individual Paper (30%)
- Group Presentation (20%)
- Group Project (50%)

Lecture / Seminar

- 9 Lectures per course, 3 per week, each with corresponding seminar.
- Lectures taught by 2 PPE staff from different disciplines, plus 1-2 guest lecturers.
- Small group seminars run by 2 PhD student 'judos'.

Group Work

- Students plan and work on their assignments, exchange disciplinary skills.

English Language Instruction

- 7.5 EC course-within-a-course provided by Teaching and Learning Center.
- Provides writing, presenting and presentation-making training and practice. Lectures include:
 - English in Adversarial Environments
 - Writing for an Audience
 - Pitches
 - Beginning and Intermediate Academic English.

Final Presentations

- The course ends with a final poster market from 1st years and final conference for 2nd years. Students from both cohorts attend **both** sessions to allow inter-cohort idea exchange.

Challenges

- Many teachers (7+) involved, lots of coordination.
- Helping students to structure group time.
- Fast pace, with many new ideas.

Successes

- Students leave with excellent language skills.
- We cover broad, complex topics at undergraduate level.
- Students see different disciplinary perspectives.