

Course Title	:	PMS 3102 Managing Finance and Public Budgeting
Recommended Study Year	:	1
No. of Credits/Term	:	3
Mode of Tuition	:	Lectures and Tutorial
Class Contact Hours	:	3 hours per week
Category in Major Prog.	:	Required
Discipline	:	Public Management
Prerequisite(s)	:	N/A
Co-requisite(s)	:	N/A
Exclusion(s)	:	N/A
Exemption Requirement(s)	:	N/A

Brief Course Description

This course is designed to enhance students' understanding of 1) key concepts and issues in financial and public budgeting, 2) objectives of budgeting and financial management, 3) trends in budgetary and financial management, and 4) relevant key issues in Hong Kong.

Aims

This course aims to:

- Introduce the key concepts and core issues in finance and public budgeting
- Understand traditional budgeting and the objectives of budgeting and financial management
- Understand trends in budgetary and financial management
- Understand key issues in the public budgeting and financial management in Hong Kong

Learning Outcomes (LOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Detect the core issues and current changes in public budgeting and financial management
2. Explain the framework, principles, processes and politics of public budgeting and financial management in Hong Kong
3. Understand budgeting and financial management reforms in Hong Kong before and after 1997
4. Examine the critical issues in budgeting and financial management reform and their implications
5. Discover the international trends in budgeting and financial management reforms

Indicative Content

1. Changes and issues in public budgeting.
2. Management of public finances in Hong Kong: framework, roles and relationships.
3. Budgetary principles, processes, and politics in Hong Kong.
4. Financial Management in Hong Kong until 1997.
5. Financial Management Reform in Hong Kong after 1997.
6. One-line Budgets and Expenditure Envelopes.
7. Public sector downsizing and reengineering.
8. Managing performance.
9. Managing costs efficiency.
10. Managing devolution of fiscal powers and responsibilities.
11. Value for money and auditing.
12. New Public Management and budget and financial management reforms
13. Budgeting for results and outcomes.

Teaching Methods

The course will consist of weekly lectures (2 hours), tutorials (1 hour). In tutorials, students will discuss the assigned readings and take turns to make presentations.

Assessment

1. 40% Final examination: A two-hour final examination will take place at the end of the course.
2. 60% Group assignment and presentation: A mid-term assignment (essay, 40%) will be given within the first four weeks of the course on group basis. Each group will be expected to write a 3000-word essay on one issue that is relevant to finance and public budgeting. The output will be presented to the class at the end of the course (20%).

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome	Final Exam	Group assignment and presentation
1. Detect the core issues and current changes in public budgeting and financial management	✓	✓
2. Explain the framework, principles, processes and politics of public budgeting and financial management in Hong Kong	✓	✓
3. Understand budgeting and financial management reforms in Hong Kong before and after 1997	✓	✓
4. Examine the critical issues in budgeting and financial management reform and their implications	✓	✓
5. Discover the international trends in budgeting and financial management reforms	✓	✓

Required/Essential Readings

Mikesell, John. 2013. "Fiscal Administration." 9th edition (8th edition can be used with awareness on some updates). Wadsworth Publishing.

Recommended/Supplementary Readings

1. Eliza Lee, 2011: "History and Context of Public Administration in Hong Kong"
2. Ian Scott, 2010: "Policy and Budgetary Cycle in Hong Kong"
3. Anthony Cheung 2011. "Performance Management in Hong Kong"
4. Wilson Wong. 2009. "The Days after the End of the Asian Miracle: The Budget Crisis of Hong Kong," in Sing Ming, ed., Politics and Government in Hong Kong: Crisis under Chinese Sovereignty. (UK: Routledge).
5. Anthony Cheung. 2006. "Budgetary Reforms in Two City States: Impact on the Central Budget Agency in Hong Kong and Singapore," International Review of Administrative Sciences, 72(3): 341-361.
6. Lam, N. M. K. (2000) "The Changing Functions of Public Budgeting in Hong Kong," Public Administration and Policy, Vol. 9, No. 2, September, pp. 1-26.
7. Lui, Richard, Kwok-Man (2008). "New Public Management in Hong Kong: Financial, Personal and Performance Aspects," Conference paper on "New Public Management and Quality of Government."
8. Peter Cheung, 2011 "Intergovernmental Relations Between Mainland China and the Hong Kong SAR"
9. Irene Rubin, 2013. The Politics of Public Budgeting: Getting and Spending, Borrowing and Balancing. 7th edition.

10. XiaoHu Wang, 2014. Financial Management in the Public Sector. 3rd edition. Routledge/ME.Sharp
11. Wai Fung LAM and Kwan Nok CHAN. 2015. "How Authoritarianism Intensifies Punctuated Equilibrium: The Dynamics of Policy Attention in Hong Kong". *overnance: An International Journal of Policy, Administration, and Institution*. 28 (4): 549-570

Additional readings will also be given weekly on a topic-by-topic basis.

Important Notes:

1. Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
2. Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in coursework, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations and Course Work. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is "the presentation of another person's work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student's own work". Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
3. Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
4. To enhance students' understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course "Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness" is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.