

COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. Goals

The module shall aid students in understanding the role and impact of higher education regarding the present-day societal challenges. It will encompass a well-rounded outlook on global modern crises, including managing education in a post-pandemic world, during and after war conflicts, political unrest, and economic challenges. The module is intended to provide foundational concepts and theories of public policy and policy analysis, including their empirical operationalization. It will also elaborate on the strategies and policies deployed globally in addressing societal challenges and the role of stakeholders and policy actors. Finally, the module shall present major principles and frameworks of humanitarian development and practical tool-kits for establishing equitable, inclusive, resilient and innovative learning and teaching in higher education in times of emergency. Upon successful completion of the module, students will have prepared individual project action plans tackling a specific challenge of the in-war higher education management on the institutional or national level.

2. Expected Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module students will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding:

- explain key principles of evidence-based policy making and policy analysis in the field of higher education;
- identify concrete policy implementation process in the field of higher education;
- analyse effectiveness and efficiency of using different policy instruments in the context of higher education in crisis.

Skills:

- draft system and institutional strategies and policies to address societal challenges through higher education potential;
- assess response analysis plans for emergency interventions;
- evaluate impact of humanitarian development tools for societal challenges.

Attitudes:

- accept the complex nature of policy problems and processes;
- become open-minded for finding new and innovative solutions when developing policy approaches

3. Topics

- Public policy and policy analysis: foundational concepts, framework, instruments and implementation.
- Policy borrowing, transfer and convergence. Assessment and evaluation of policy programmes.
- Policy making in times of crisis. Crisis management of higher education systems and institutions: policies and practices.
- Humanitarian programming and disaster risk reduction: conceptual premises and their operationalisation. Aid flows in higher education.
- The role of stakeholders in policy processes and reforms.
- Social dimension of higher education.

READINGS

Readings for each class can be found from folder (“Readings”) in Moodle module area.

DELIVERABLE (graded)

Individual project action plan tackling a specific challenge of the in-war higher education management on the institutional or national level. Each student will choose one real-life case of higher education management challenge in times of war, either on the institutional or national

level. (S)he is asked to prepare a presentation on her/his case and upload it to the designated Moodle module area before the seminar day. Each presentation is to be designed around 15 minutes, and 10 more minutes are allocated for questions and answers after the presentation. Aspects to be included in the presentation (template will be provided):

- Overview of the selected case
 - Statement of the problem (SWOT/PESTLE analysis)
 - Theory of change / Theoretical framework
 - Development strategy
 - Implementation plan
 - Risk analysis
- Grading: presentation and delivery are graded altogether.

COURSE GRADING

Grading criteria for the module deliverable:

- Topic, thoroughness, insights objectives
- Organization and flow of presentation
- Overall visual appeal, readability of the slides
- Language: grammar, punctuation and spelling