
(NMgr) Programme: Public and Social Policy Studies (NP_PASP)

Master's Programme N0314A250016: Public and Social Policy Studies

Academic year 2025/2026

Public and Social Policy Studies (PASP) is a two-year, English-language Master's degree programme fully accredited by the Czech Ministry of Education, which aims to provide students with current knowledge of policy-making processes and cultivate their analytical skills. It is taught at Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Social Sciences, by members of the Institute of Sociological Studies (ISS).

The programme is developed in accordance with almost twenty years of experience in teaching the Czech-language program in Public and Social Policy, as well in offering a variety of English-language courses and conducting international research programs. The program incorporates a strong comparative dimension in its teaching of public policy. The theoretical grounds of the discipline are covered especially in the courses Public Policy, Theoretical Approaches to the Policy Process and Public Administration. Insight into different policy domains and public policy issues will be offered in a variety of courses, such as Social Policy, Health Policy or Civil Society in Central Europe.

Methodological knowledge and skills will be developed as part of the courses Policy Analysis, Introduction to Social Research Methodology, Statistics in SPSS, Text, Narrative & Discourse Analysis, and Diploma Seminars I and II. During the program, students will work both individually and in groups on concrete social and policy problems.

Graduates of the programme will have contemporary knowledge about policy-making processes and will be able to analyse these processes creatively and independently, using both quantitative and qualitative research methods. Graduates of the programme will have attained the knowledge and skills required to work as professionals not only in the public sector, but also for non-profit organizations, private companies, or academia.

To complete the programme, students must collect 120 ECTS credits, defend their Master's Thesis and pass the final state examination.

Study prerequisites: The PASP programme is open only to students who have already completed a Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in a related programme of study.

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Language of Instruction: English

Course Structure and Study Requirements

Compulsory courses:	71 credits
Elective courses:	min. 37 credits
Optional courses:	max. 12 credits
Total number of all required credits (ECTS):	120 credits

Master State Examination

(JDIP01) Diploma thesis defence

(JSZ615) Social Policy

(JSZ616) Public Policy

* WS = Winter Semester (Oct. - Feb.) SS = Summer Semester (Feb. - June)

Compulsory Courses (J#0940)

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Code	Course title	Course leader	Semester	Hours per week	Course assessment	ECTS credit points
JSM406	Introduction to Data Analysis	Soukup Petrušek	WS/SS	1/1	Examination	8
JSM518	Public Policy	Vejchodská	WS	2/1	Examination	9

JSM605	Diploma Seminar I	Frič	WS	0/2	Course credit	6
JSM691	Policy Analysis	Veselý	WS	2/1	Examination	9
JSM692	Introduction to Social Research Methodology	Jeřábek Remr	WS	2/2	Examination	9
JSM695	Diploma Seminar II	Frič	SS	0/2	Course credit	6
JSM704	Theoretical Approaches to the Policy Process	Novotný	SS	1/1	Examination	8
JSM727	Social Policy	Angelovská Jusič	SS	0/2	Examination	8
JSM739	Public Administration	Witz	SS	1/1	Examination	8

Compulsory Courses Total ECTS: 71

Prerequisites, co-requisites, interchangeable and incompatible courses

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Code	Course title	Pre-requisite	Co-requisite	Interchangeability	Incompatibility
JSM518	Public Policy				JSM588 JSM699
JSM605	Diploma Seminar I				JSM694
JSM691	Policy Analysis				JSM726 JSM748
JSM692	Introduction to Social Research Methodology				JSB015 JSB529 JSM540
JSM727	Social Policy				JSM335 JSM519

Elective Courses (J#094125)

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Code	Course title	Course leader	Semester	Hours per week	Course assessment	ECTS credit points
JEB025	Public Finance	Janský Palanský	SS	2/0	Examination	5
JEM101	Health Economics	Votápková	SS	2/2	Examination	6
JEM165	International Political Economy	Havránková Semerák	SS	2/0	Examination	6
JSM010	Advanced Statistics	Soukup	SS	1/1	Examination	8
JSM032	Applied Social Research	Remr	WS/SS	2/1	Examination	7
JSM047	Social Inequalities: Ethnicity, Gender and Age	Hasmanová Marhánková	SS	1/1	Examination	8
JSM095	Study of Political Mobilization	Císař	WS	1/1	Examination	6

	and Social Movements					
JSM139	Policy Analysis Methods	Jusić	WS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM252	The Social Dimension of the Just Transition	Jusić	SS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM257	Climate Change and Sustainability: Workshop Prague-Konstanz Study Days on Society and Policy Process in the Digital Age	Novotný	SS	0/2	Examination	6
JSM258	AI and Governance	Filo	WS	1/1	Examination	5
JSM289	Radical Politics and the Welfare State	Gurín	SS	1/1	Examination	5
JSM354	Policymaking in Authoritarian Regimes	Kamilsoy	SS	1/1	Examination	5
JSM421	Contemporary Social Theory	Balon	WS	2/0	Examination	9
JSM437	Civil Society in Central Europe	Frič	SS	2/0	Examination	8
JSM480	Evaluation Research	Remr	WS	2/0	Examination	8
JSM531	Sociology of Health and Medicine: Contemporary Issues and Debates	Hasmanová Marhánková	SS	1/1	Examination	5
JSM532	Global Environmental Governance: A Policymaking Perspective	Dufalla	SS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM533	Just Transition in a Comparative Perspective: The Berlin-Prague Workshop	Novotný	SS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM579	Sociological Theories of Populism	Dvořák	WS	1/1	Examination	8
JSM602	Health Policy	Kotherová	SS	1/1	Examination	8

JSM657	<u>Policy Process, Political Parties and the Welfare</u>	<u>Novotný</u>	WS	1/1	Examination	8
JSM658	<u>Policy Studies Workshop: Multiple Streams Framework</u>	<u>Novotný</u>	SS	0/2	Examination	6
JSM678	<u>Introduction to Program Evaluation</u>	<u>Nekola</u>	SS	1/1	Examination	5
JSM689	<u>International Migration</u>	<u>Jelínková</u>	WS	1/1	Examination	7
JSM693	<u>Text, Narrative & Discourse Analysis</u>	<u>Hájek</u>	SS	1/1	Examination	9
JSM703	<u>Current Issues in Public Policy</u>	<u>Veselý</u>	WS	1/0	Examination	4
JSM731	<u>Public Economics</u>	<u>Vejchodská</u>	WS	1/1	Examination	8
JSM732	<u>Behavioral Economics for Public and Social Policy</u>	<u>Kovács</u>	WS	1/1	Examination	7
JSM733	<u>The European Union: Integration and democratization</u>	<u>Tudjarovska Gjorgjievska</u>	WS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM735	<u>Contemporary Challenges of Policy Studies: Workshop on Resilience Policy and Crises</u>	<u>Novotný</u>	WS	0/2	Examination	6
JSM736	<u>The functioning of the European Union: politics and policy decision-making</u>	<u>Tudjarovska Gjorgjievska</u>	SS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM737	<u>Contemporary EU politics: the political and economic development</u>	<u>Tudjarovska Gjorgjievska</u>	WS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM740	<u>Dis/advantaging the family and society: the role of the welfare state</u>	<u>Gurín</u>	SS	1/1	Course credit	5
JSM752	<u>Current Trends in Social Policy: Implications for Social Security.</u>	<u>Potůček</u>	SS	0/2	Examination	4

	Work and Family Life					
JSM756	Environmental Policy Instruments and Their Applications	Horváthová	WS/SS	0/2	Examination	6
JSM777	EU Comparative Politics: Tensions in Representative Democracy	Tudjarovska Gjorgjievska	WS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM781	Educational Policy	Veselý	SS	1/1	Examination	6
JSM790	Theories of Governance	Ndiaye	SS	2/1	Examination	6
JSM791	Family Policy: Concepts, Reforms, and Effects	Gurín	WS	1/1	Course credit	4
JTM041	European Comparative Politics and Society	Rovná	SS	1/1	Examination	6

Elective Courses Minimum ECTS: 37

Prerequisites, co-requisites, interchangeable and incompatible courses

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Code	Course title	Pre-requisite	Co-requisite	Interchangeability	Incompatibility
JEB025	Public Finance	J#R101			JSM731
JEM165	International Political Economy			JPM325	JEM212 JPM325
JSM032	Applied Social Research				JSM540
JSM047	Social Inequalities: Ethnicity, Gender and Age				JSM189
JSM252	The Social Dimension of the Just Transition				JSM533
JSM533	Just Transition in a Comparative Perspective: The Berlin-Prague Workshop				JSM252
JSM678	Introduction to Program Evaluation				JSM654
JSM731	Public Economics				JEB025
JSM732	Behavioral Economics for				JSM540

	Public and Social Policy				
JSM781	Educational Policy				JSM685
JTM041	European Comparative Politics and Society				JTM750

Study plan code:
J25NPPASP1761