

**CBN COLLABORATIVE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA NSUKKA  
COURSE: PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMICS I  
MODULE SPECIFICATION**

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1. **Module Title:** Public Sector Economics I
2. **Module Code:** ECO 581
3. **Number of credits:** 3
4. **Level:** MSc.
5. **Semester:** 1<sup>st</sup>
6. **Pre-requisites for admission to the module (if any)**  
The pre-requisite is that the student has a satisfactory knowledge of intermediate Public Sector Economics and Quantitative techniques.
7. **Module Coordinator.**
8. **Aims**  
Upon completion of the course, students are expected to:
  1. have thorough understanding of the theories and practice of public sector economics
  2. thoroughly understand the roles of public sector economics in guiding public sector policies.
  3. thoroughly understand the theories and practice of public finance and should be able to use the economic techniques to analyze policies in the public sector
  4. use the knowledge of public sector economic theories to conceptualize and advance public sector issues
  5. Critically evaluate public sector policies
  6. Develop critical skills to evaluate emerging developments in public sector economics

### 9. Summary of Content

The course provides an advanced, organised, and comprehensive discussion of theoretical and empirical research in public economics. It focuses on the relationship between the government and the market as well as the rationale for government involvement. The course covers a wide range of the many critical decisions policy makers face regarding both the expenditure side and the financing of the public sector, as well as the implications of these on individuals' and firms' behaviour and the overall economy. The course provides cutting-edge, organized, and wide-ranging discussions of theoretical and empirical public sector economics. The course covers relationship between the government and the market and the role of the public sector in influencing resource allocation in a market economy. The course treats the role and size of the public sector, including the rationale for public sector interventions such as market and government failure and distributional concerns; public expenditure policy, including assessment of government social protection programs, public projects, public investment management, public-private partnerships, privatization and the role of the private sector in the production and provision of public goods and services. The topics covered include; Introduction; Foundations of Public Economics; Market Failure; Government Failure; Externalities; Theory of Public Good; Public Choice Theory; Public Expenditure Theory; Public Investment Management.

### 10. Module Intended Learning Outcomes (MILOs)

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

No.	Milos	Weighting (%)
1	Understand the motive for and against market system	<b>Refer to no.15</b>
2	Have a deep understanding of the rationale for and against government involvement	
3	Understand the issue of externalities and economic efficiency	
4	Be able to apply economic tools in analyzing socially efficient provision of public expenditure such as public good, social transfer	
5	Explain public expenditure theories and be able to apply them in public sector analysis	
6	Understand the applications and relevance of public choice theories to Developing Counties	

7	Understand and explain various ways to efficiently and effectively managing public investment in low-income and/or capacity-constrained environment	
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### 11. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

MILO No.	TLAs	Functions	Hours/Week
1,2,3,4,5,6,7	Lectures and materials	Course instructors will introduce, with appropriate audio-visual materials, the critical concepts and theories through lectures.	<b>3 hours</b>
1,2,3,4,5,6,7	Tutorials (Group Discussions, Quizzes, seminar Presentations, peer review)	Tutorial sessions will introduce additional learning support with activities such as case studies, group discussion, seminar presentations, peer review, quizzes. Emphasis is placed on in-depth learning of the theories, their relevance and applications to Developing economies.	<b>1 hour</b>

### 12. Assessments Tasks/Activities

MILO No.	Type of assessment tasks/activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
1,2,3,4,5,6,7	<b>Examination</b> Students are required to participate in a three-hour examination to test their acquisitions of concepts, theories and knowledge. Plagiarism and other academic dishonesty are viewed very seriously and disciplinary action will be taken against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in connection with examinations and assessments.	60%	
1,2,3,4,5,6,7	<b>Written Test/Quizzes</b> 1-hour written test/ Quizzes	20%	Week 7/On Going basis
1,2,3,4,5,6,7	<b>Coursework Paper</b> Students will hand in a coursework research paper on any of	20%	Students must hand in their coursework paper in

	the seven topics as their individual assignment.		Week10
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### 13. Attendance Requirements

Students are required to attend all lectures, tutorials and laboratory sessions (if any). Students must have at least 75% attendance to qualify for the examination.

### 14. Contribution to Programme Learning Outcomes

No	PILOs	MILO No
1	develop in the students a thorough knowledge and applied competence in the fundamentals of Public Sector Economics.	1,2,3,4,5,6,7
2	develop in the students an ability to critically appraise alternative systems of Public Sector Economics.	1,2,4,6,7
3	Expose students to policy debate regarding economics standards and systems including new economic analysis software	1, 2,3,4,5,6,7
4	equip students with economic theories that will lead to expertise in Public Sector Economics	1, 2,3,4,5,6,7
5	provide training to qualified graduates of economics and to other individuals whose prior training or experience has made them capable of playing a leadership role in the economics profession	1, 2,3,4,5,6,7
6	equip students with the ability to analyse and undertake courses of action to improve organisational performance using financial, operational and strategic perspectives and frameworks learned in the coursework and experience	3,4,5,6,7
7	prepare students for managerial positions in the industries, as well as other related organisations	1,2,3,4,5,6,7
8	prepare participants for positions as consultants, advocates, analysts, or directly as policy makers in the public and private sector	1,2,3,4,5,6,7
9	Inculcate the requisite intellectual/conceptual foundations that will permit meaningful participation in the discussion or resolution of the problems which confront the Economics discipline in the	1,2,3,4,5,6,7

	contemporary word;	
<b>10</b>	encourage research into problems which impede the maximum contribution of Economics to national development and well-being of the people	<b>1,2,3,4,5,6,7</b>
<b>11</b>	develop skill in logical reasoning and critical analysis and improve the capacity students in formulating sound economic policies and strategies	<b>1,2,3,4,5,6,7</b>

### 15. Grading of Student Achievement

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>% Mark</b>	<b>Grade Definitions</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
A	70 and above	<b>Excellent</b>	Demonstrates excellent understanding of the subject matters with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought
B	60-69	<b>Good</b>	Demonstrates a good understanding of the subject matters, though missing some of the points.
C	50-59	<b>Adequate</b>	Demonstrates an adequate understanding of the core of the subject matters and can only recall limited content
F	<50%	<b>Fail</b>	Does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

### 16. Resources

#### Suggested primary texts

<b>SN</b>	<b>Name of Author</b>	<b>Year of Publication</b>	<b>Title of Book</b>	<b>Edition</b>	<b>Publisher's Name</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
1	Stiglitz, J.E. & Rosengard, J.K	2015	Economics of the Public Sector	4 <sup>th</sup> Edition	W.W. Norton & Company	9780393925227
2	Howard, M., La Foucade, A. &	2010	Public Sector Economics for Developing Countries	2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition	University of West Indies	9789766402242

	Scott, E.					
3	Atkinson, A.B. & Stiglitz, J.E.	2015	Lectures on Public Economics	Updated Edition	Prentice University Press	9780691166414
4	Brown, C.V & Jackson, P.M.	1990	Public Sector Economics	4 <sup>th</sup> Edition	Wiley-Blackwell Publishers	9780631162087
5	Premchand, A.	1989	Government Budgeting and Expenditure Controls: Theory and Practice	1 <sup>st</sup> Edition	International Monetary Fund	9780939934256
6	Musgrave, R.A & Musgrave, P.B.	1989	Public Finance in Theory and Practice	5 <sup>th</sup> Edition	McGraw-Hill	9780070596931
7	Myles, G. D	1995	Public Economics	1 <sup>st</sup> Edition	Cambridge University Press	9780521497695
8	Shah, Anwar	2005	Public Expenditure Analysis	1 <sup>st</sup> Edition	The World Bank	9780821361443
9	Hillman, Arye L.	2003	Public Finance and Public Policy: Responsibilities and Limitations of Government	1 <sup>st</sup> Edition	Cambridge University Press	0521001145
10	Burnside, Craig	2005	Fiscal Sustainability in Theory and Practice – A Handbook	1 <sup>st</sup> Edition	The World Bank	9780821358740

### Suggested secondary texts

SN	Name of Author(s)	Year of Publication	Title of Book	Edition	Publisher's Name	ISBN
1	Harvey, S.R & Gayer, T	2010	Public Finance	9 <sup>th</sup> Edition	McGraw-Hill	9780078021688
2	Hyman, D.N	2010	Public Finance: A Contemporary Application of Theory to Policy	11 <sup>th</sup> Edition	South-Western Cengage Learning	9788131529423

### Suggested Journals

- \*Journal of Public Economics
- \*Public Finance Review
- \*Journal of Political Economy
- \*CBN Economic and Financial Review
- \*Nigerian Journal of Economic and Social Studies
- \*Journal of Public Economic Theory
- \*Journal of Public Administration Research

- \*Journal of Policy Modelling
- \*Public Choice
- \*Public Management Review
- \*Public Policy and Administration
- \*Journal of Policy Analysis and Management
- \*Journal of Pension Economics and Finance

### **Selected Journal Articles**

1. Bator, F. "The Anatomy of Market failure ". Quarterly Journal of Economics. Vol 72, 1958
2. Kruger, O.A. 1990. Government failure in Development. The Journal of Economic Perspectives Market failure and Government failure. The Journal of Economic Perspectives. Vol. 4 (3)  
And other journals that will be recommended in the course of the program.
3. Ram, R. 1986. "Government Size and Economic growth: A new framework and some evidence from cross-section and time series data". American Economic Review. Vol 17(1)
4. Ekpo, A.H. 1995. 'Public Expenditure and Growth in Nigeria, 1960-92' AERC Final Report.

### **Facilities Requirements**

A lecture room with appropriate teaching and laboratory (if any) facilities