

Babes-Bolyai University
Faculty of Political Sciences, Public Administration and Communication
Department of Public Administration

1. General information about the course

Course title: Local Economic Development

Course code: UME2325

ECTS (number of credits): 6

Year and Semester: 2nd year, 1st semester

2. General information about the instructor

Instructor's name: Bogdan Andrei Moldovan

Contact information (tel/fax and email): Email: moldovan@fspac.ro

Office hours: Tuesday 11-13, room 106 (FSPAC 2 building)

3. Course description

a. Course description:

This course develops the discussion on decision-making support tools related to local economic development, with focus on the strategies that local government can devise in order to promote the economic component of the local development plans. The course is tackling the connection between theory and practice in the area of economic development of communities through the use of case studies and practical analysis.

b. Course objectives:

Understanding the concepts of local economic development and applying specific decision-making support tools in shaping local economic development strategies. The course discusses the main theories of local economic development, aiming at facilitating the understanding (and use) of most important concepts and analytical tools of local economic development planning process, as well as models and types of local economic development strategies.

c. Skills acquired by students:

Detailed knowledge on strategic local economic development. Use of specific tools: methods for assessing the economic performance of communities (LQ, SSA), multi-criteria analysis, cost-benefit analysis.

4. Required bibliography

- Blakely, J. Edward and Bradshaw, K. Ted, „Planning local economic development”, 3rd edition, 2002, Sage Publications Inc., London, UK
- Blakely, J. Edward and Green Leigh, Nancy, „Planning local economic development”, 2010, Sage Publications Inc., London, UK
- Boardman, Greenberg, Vining, and Weimer. Cost-Benefit Analysis: Concepts and Practice,(4th Edition), NJ: Prentice Hall, 2011
- Moldovan, B., Lazar, D. Pavel, A. – Local Economic Development, Triton, 2013

- Andy Pike, Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, John Tomaney - Local and Regional Development- Routledge (2016)

5. Schedule of course activities:

Main topics covered

1. Introduction in LED
2. Concepts and theories of local economic development
3. Economic growth through attracting human capital
4. Economic resilience of communities
5. LED planning process – phases of planning, approaches and roles
6. LED tools and techniques – local economy assessment
7. Tools for measuring economic performance 1 (LQ)
8. Tools for measuring economic performance 2 (SSA)
9. Multi Criteria Analysis
10. CBA - conceptual foundations of Cost-Benefit Analysis
11. CBA - microeconomic foundations of Cost-Benefit Analysis
12. CBA - valuing benefits and costs in primary and secondary markets
13. CBA - discounting benefits and costs in future time periods
14. Preparing a detailed project plan + Recap

6. Evaluation

Paper - LED Strategy for a specific community

Attendance: min 70% of classes

7. Optional bibliography

- Bellinger, W.K., The Economic Analysis of Public Policy, Routledge, 2007
- Blair, P. John, „Local economic development: analysis and practice”, 1995 Sage Publications Inc., London, UK
- Blair, P. John, Carrol, Michael, C. „Local economic development. Analysis, practices and globalization”, 2009 Sage Publications Inc., London, UK
- Boardman, A., Greenberg, D., Vining, A. & Weimer, D., Cost-Benefit Analysis: Concepts and Practice (4th ed.), Prentice Hall, 2011.
- Forman, M., Mooney, J., ‘Learning to lead - A Primer on Economic Development Strategies’, Washington State Community, Trade and Economic Development, Kendall Hunt Pub. Co., 1999
- Fosler, R. Scott, „Local economic development”, 1991, ICMA ed., Washington DC, USA
- Lyons, T. S., & Hamlin, R. E., “Creating an economic development action plan: A guide for development professionals”, Greenwood Publishing Group, 2001.
- Porter, D. – „The practice of sustainable development”, 2000, ULI ed., Washington DC, USA
- Stimson, R. J., Stough, R. R., Roberts, B. H., Regional Economic Development: Analysis and Planning Strategy, Revised Edition., Berlin: Springer, 2006.