

Department of Business Administration

EHFO001, Research Policy,
7.5 credits
Forskningspolitik,
7,5 hp
Third Cycle/Forskarutbildningsnivå

General information

The course EHFE001 is a course on Research Policy at the third cycle level

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies: Research Policy

Course description

The course will provide PhD-students with an overview of the key concepts and approaches in research on research policy. On completion of this course, students will have acquired a working definition of research policy; be able to identify and define the key concepts in the field; identify and analyse key problems and critically engage with some of the most well established analytical frameworks in the field. Apart from this substantive knowledge, students will have acquired analytical skills that will allow them to formulate problems in research policy.

Learning outcomes

The following learning outcomes are required for a passing grade on the course.

Knowledge and understanding

- A thorough understanding of concepts in research policy – background, key concepts and analytical frameworks

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Applying the research policy literature to your personal research project

- Critically reflecting on the way in which research policy affects research practice

Communication

- Have an ability to form arguments for both research and public debate orally as well as in writing.

Course content

Research or alternatively science policy may be defined as the set of practices (e.g. evaluation and agenda setting) and funding instruments designed and implemented to stimulate the production of scientific and technological knowledge in order to realise the ideal of progress and/or welfare. Research policy may be implemented at several levels, the nation state, a university, a region or a company but for the purposes of this course we will restrict ourselves to publicly funded science.

National research policy may be regarded as having two parts, one normative, the other regulative. The normative part consists of a rationale for why science should be publicly funded and an underlying but seldom explicated commitment that science is the path towards achieving the normative goals of the agency or state. The second, regulative part consists of a portfolio of instruments, practices, rules, etc. that are intended to regulate the practice and outcomes from science through resource allocation, legal and organizational arrangements.

Research policy has generally been divided into two streams: policy for (the governance of) science and science for policy (scientific expertise as an input to policy). In this course we will only briefly touch upon the latter issue.

Course design

EHFO001 is organized around three modules, viz: conceptualizing the governance of research; key approaches in studying the governance of research and critical policy studies. The readings for each of these modules will be research articles and book chapters provided in digital form. Once a student is admitted to the course, s/he will receive a link allowing them access to the course material. The course will be delivered in seminar/lecture format and will be comprised of three lectures and seven seminars grouped together in three meetings, each meeting will encompass one full day.

Assessment

To pass the course, students will be expected to read the listed literature, participate fully in all three meetings and produce a 5.000 word essay on a topic of their own choosing applying literature and analytical approaches taught in the course.

Credits

Grades are Pass or Fail.

Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The University will take disciplinary actions against any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other

improper practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specific period of time.

Entry requirements

Any PhD student from social or natural sciences as well as from the humanities interested in Research Policy in a wide sense, how knowledge is supported, evaluated, ignored, and used in society, in theory and in practice. Practitioners who are working with the governance of research, research funding, management, etc. are particularly welcome to join the course.

Course literature

See separate literature list.

Department of Business Administration

MANDATORY LITERATURE

Module One: Key concepts in research policy

This module will focus on presenting and critically discussing the key concepts in research policy and providing a general overview of the field. The literature is divided into three broad categories. The first category is a broad introduction to the concept of governance with particular focus on issues and themes that are connected to governance of higher education and research policy such as the notions of accountability, and multilevel governance. The second is models for the governance of research which focuses on concepts and arrangements developed specifically for governing academic science: triple helix; mode 2; linear model, etc.

Conceptualising the governance of research

Elzinga, A. (2012) Features of the current science-policy regime: Viewed in historical perspective, *Science and Public Policy* 39 pp. 416–428.

Godin, Benoît (2006) "The Linear Model of Innovation: The Historical Construction of an Analytical Framework" in *Science Technology Human Values* 2006; 31; 639.

Godin, Benoît (2007) Science, accounting and statistics: The input–output framework, *Research Policy* 36 pp. 1388–1403

Gibbons, Michael; Limoges, Camille; Nowotny, Helga; Schwartzman, Simon; Scott, Peter & Trow, Martin (1994): *The new production of knowledge: The dynamics of science and research in contemporary societies*, London, Sage ("Introduction" and Ch. 1 "Evolution of knowledge production, pp. 1–45).

Sarewitz, D., Foladori, G. Invernizzi, N. and Garfinkel, M.S. (2004) Science Policy in its Social Context, *Philosophy Today* pp. 67–83.

Toulmin, S. (1966) The Complexity of Scientific Choice II: Culture, Overheads or Tertiary Industry, *Minerva* 4(2) pp 155–169.

Colebatch, C.K. (2009) Governance as a conceptual development in the analysis of policy, *Critical Policy Studies*, 3(1) pp. 58–67.

Scientific expertise and policy

Ezrahi Y. (1980) Utopian and Pragmatic Rationalism: The Political Context of Scientific Advice, *Minerva* pp. 111–131.

Haas P M 1992. Introduction: epistemic communities and international policy coordination. *International Organization*, 46(1), 1–36.

Plehwe, D. (2015) Introduction: Expertise Between Science and Politics, In Fischer, F. Torgerson, D. et al. (eds) *Handbook in Critical Policy Studies*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham

Falk Daviter (2015) The political use of knowledge in the policy process, *Policy Science* 48:491–505.

Module Two: Key Approaches in studying the governance of research

This module focuses on identifying and outlining well established frameworks for studying research policy. The list is not exhaustive but is intended to give the student insights into the theoretical approaches and how they have been applied to study themes in research policy.

Rational choice and Institutional Approaches

Amenta E. and Ramsey, K. (2010) Institutional Theory, In K.T. Leicht and J.C. Jenkins (eds.), *Handbook of Politics: State and Society in Global Perspective*, Springer Handbooks of Sociology and Social Research, pp. 15–39.

Miller D. (2005) The Political Evolution of Principal-Agent Models, *Annu. Rev. Polit. Sci.* 8:203–25

Borrás S. (2012) Three Tensions in the Governance Of Science and

Technology, Levi-Faur, David (ed) *Oxford Handbook of Governance*, Oxford University Press pp. 430–446

Braun D. and Guston D. (2003) Principal agent theory and research policy: an introduction *Science and Public Policy*, 30(5): 302–308

Dunlop, C. (2010) Epistemic communities and two goals of delegation: hormone growth promoters in the European Union *Science and Public Policy* 37 (3): 205–217

Stampfer, M. Pichler, R. and Hofer, R. (2010) The making of research funding in Austria: transition politics and institutional development, 1945–2005 *Science and Public Policy* (2010) 37 (10): 765–780.

Critical policy studies

Barbehön M. et al. (2015) Problem definition and agenda setting in critical perspective, In Fischer, F. Torgerson, D. et al. (eds) Handbook in *Critical Policy Studies*, Edward Elgar: Cheltenham UK.

Barry, Andrew (2012) Political situations: knowledge controversies in transnational governance, *Critical Policy Studies*, 6:3, 324–336
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19460171.2012.699234>.

Sotiria Grek (2014) OECD as a site of coproduction: European education governance and the new politics of ‘policy mobilization’, *Critical Policy Studies*, 8:3, 266–281

Frame analysis

Fisher, K. (1997) Locating Frames in the Discursive Universe, *Sociological Research Online*, 2(3) <http://www.socresonline.org.uk>

van Hulst, M. and Yanow, Dvora (2016) From Policy “Frames” to “Framing”: Theorizing a More Dynamic, Political Approach, *American Review of Public Administration* 46(1) 92–112

Boholm, M. (2014) Political representations of nano in Swedish government documents *Science and Public Policy* 41 pp. 575–596.

OPTIONAL READING

Key areas of research in research policy

Priority/Agenda Setting

Godinho, M. and Caraça, J. (2009) Setting Research Priorities: A Taxonomy of Policy Models, Atlanta Conference on Science and Innovation Policy.

Chalmers, I. et. al. (2014) How to increase value and reduce waste when research priorities are set, *Lancet* 383: 156–165.

European Science Foundation (2013) Science Foresight to Advance European Research, ESF, Strasbourg, France Chs. 1–4. 156–65

Research funding instruments and Modalities

Heinze, T. (2008) How to sponsor ground breaking research: a comparison of funding schemes, *Science and Public Policy* 35 pp. 202–218.

Hicks, Diana (2012) Performance-based university research funding systems, *Research Policy* 41 pp. 251–261.

Jacob, M. (2013) *Research Funding Instruments and Modalities*, OECD, Paris

Evaluation

Gläser, J. (2007). The social orders of research evaluation systems. In: R. Whitley & J. Gläser (eds.), *The changing governance of the sciences*. Springer. (ch. 12)

Geuna, A. & Martin, B.R. (2003). University evaluation systems and funding: An international comparison. *Minerva* 41: 277–304.

Langfeldt, L. (2001). The decision making constraints and processes of grant peer review, and their effects on the review outcome. *Social Studies of Science*, 31, 820–841.

Hazelkorn, E. (2015) *Rankings and the Reshaping of Higher Education: The Battle for World Class Excellence*, Palgrave Macmillan

Hellström, T. (2011). Homing in on excellence: Dimensions of appraisal in Center of Excellence program evaluations. *Evaluation*, 19(5), 306–316.

Emerging research areas

Careers

Finkelstein, M (2006) The Study of Academic Careers: Looking Back, Looking Forward, In J.C. Smart (ed.), *Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research*, Vol. XXI, 159–212.

Fitzenberger B., and Schultze, U. (2014) Up or Out: Research Incentives and Career Prospects of Postdocs in Germany, *German Economic Review* 15(2) pp 287–328.

Cole, S., and Cole, J.R. (1967). Scientific output and recognition: A study in the operation of the reward system in science. *American Sociological Review* 32: 377–390.

Madge C. and Bee, A. (1999) Women, Science and Identity: Interviews with Female Physical Geographers, *Area* 31(4) pp. 335–348.

Mobility and Governance

Ackers, L. (2008) Internationalisation, Mobility and Metrics: A New Form of Indirect Discrimination? *Minerva* 46(4), pp 411–435.

Foadi-Morano, S. (2005) Scientific Mobility, Career Progression, and Excellence in the European Research Area, *International Migration*, 43(5) Pp: 133–162.

Geuna, A. (2015) *Global Mobility of Research Scientists The Economics of Who Goes Where and Why*, Academic Press, The Netherlands Chs. 1 and 4.

Internationalisation of governance

Henriques L. and Laredo P. (2013) Policy-making in science policy: The ‘OECD model’ unveiled, *Research Policy* 42(3): pp. 801–816

Treib, O. Bähr, H. and Falkner, G. (2007) Modes of governance: towards a conceptual clarification, *Journal of European Public Policy*, 14(1): pp 1–20.

Féron, E. and Crowley, J. (2003) From research policy to the governance of research? A theoretical framework and some empirical conclusions, *Innovation: European Journal of Social Science Research* 16(4): pp 369–393