

**Fulbright Economics Teaching Program**  
Master of Public Policy  
2012-2014  
Spring

**Syllabus**  
**Public Governance**

**Teaching Team**

Instructor: Phạm Duy Nghĩa                      Email: [nghiapd@fetp.vnn.vn](mailto:nghiapd@fetp.vnn.vn)  
Tutor: Nguyễn Thị Nhung                      Email: [m1.trangnht@fetp.vnn.vn](mailto:m1.trangnht@fetp.vnn.vn)

**Class hour**

Tuesday                      10:15 – 11:45  
Thursday                      10:15 – 11:45

**Office hour**

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
<b>Phạm Duy Nghĩa</b>		13.30-15.00		13.30-15.00	
<b>Nguyễn T. Nhung</b>		16.00-17.30		16.00-17.30	

**Overview**

As a member of United Nation, Vietnam committees together with other countries to implement the Millennium Announcement 2000, by recognizing that: *“Men and women have right to live and raise their children with dignity, no poverty, violence, oppression nor without justice. Managing the country based on democratic principle, with public participation and willingness is the best way to realize this right.”* UN nations also realize that they should *“together make effort toward more open political processes, attracting participation of all citizens; ensure freedom of the press so that they can carry out their key roles and the right of the public in accessing information.”*

In order to achieve that goal, public institutions and governance become critical not only to economic development, but also indispensable in providing social welfare, protecting fairness, equality, democratic right of Vietnamese people and dignity of human.

In Vietnam, the concept “state management” is still widespread, with focus on characteristics of a command state inherited from the Soviet state doctrine. On the opposite, public governance or good governance is a relative new perspective, which has not been studied or publicly discussed in depth.

Following the Law and Public Policy course, “Public Governance” introduces students with concept and interaction between public governance and development, elements that create an effective public governance to ensuring sustainable development in the country.

## Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- discuss concepts relating to institutional reforms and public governance, particularly to distinguish between “*state management*” based on totalitarian Soviet’s state doctrine and *good governance* as required for modernizing the public institution in the country.
- be equipped with knowledge and skills to discuss factors essentially needed for building of good public governance at central and local levels.
- apply theory into work environment, analyze selected policy in order to enhance public participation in local policy formulation, increase business community participation in central policy formulation, and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Vietnamese public governance.

## Requirements

It is expected that students read the assigned readings before class as indicated in this syllabus, actively participate in class discussions and join one of the three discussion groups to complete one policy memo.

Grades will be determined by:

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Weight</u>
- Class participation:	20%
- 05 mini papers on readings:	30%
- 01 policy memo:	50%
o Report and answer the discussion in seminar:	20%
o Memo	30%

### 1) Mini papers on readings, 30 % total grade

There are 5 mini papers on readings. Absentees are required to turn in all assignments. Within this 7-week course, the first and last week has no assignment. It will be given every Wednesday and students have to submit a hard copy into the class mail box in the lab by 8:20 AM on Tuesday of the following week as FETP regulation.

### 2) Group assignment and policy memo, 40 % total grade

Apply knowledge learnt to the field or sector where students are working, each student nominates one topic of policy to participate in three areas of discussion, each area will be assigned not more than 15 students. The memo should be within at least 10 A4-pages length, or from 10,000 words, not more than 15 A4-pages length, or 15,000 words. Discussion topics will be in the following three areas:

- *Evaluate policies that help enhance grassroots democracy, public and business participation in local policies.*
- *Evaluate policies that help enhance business sector participation, especially private sector, to Government economic policies.*

- Evaluate policies that help enhance transparent government, right to access to informations of people, freedom of the press and monitoring government by civil society
- Assess measurement of public governance performance, policy draft and recommendation to the public sector, performance of the public servants, and policies on preventing and fighting against corruption.

Schedule of policy memo assignment:

26/02/2013:	Group registration
5/03/2013:	Topic registration after discussion with the teaching team (after 2 weeks)
11-12/04/2013:	Student presentation (10 minutes/each) and seminar. This is 20%: Group 1: 11/04/2013: 8.30-11.45 (AM) Group 2: 11/04/2013: 13.30 -16.45 (PM) Group 3: 12/04/2013: 8.30-11.45 (AM) Group 4: 12/04/2013: 8.30-11.45 (PM)
29/04/2013:	Memo submission (by hard copy and file as FETP regulation. This memo is 30%

### 3) Preparing and participating in class discussions, 20 % total grade

The course is organized with class lectures and discussions. Case study discussion is increasing toward the end of the course. Students will be assessed based on their reading preparation and class participation.

## Readings

Required Readings:

- Daron Acemoglu, James Robinson, *Why Nations fail*, 2012 (sau đây viết tắt là Acemoglu), (có thể đọc bản dịch của Nguyễn Quang A), tối thiểu là các chương 1,2,3; 6; 11 và 12, khuyến khích đọc nhiều hơn.
- Ngân hàng Phát triển Châu Á (ADB), *Phục vụ và duy trì: Cải thiện hành chính công trong một thế giới cạnh tranh*, NXB Chính trị quốc gia, 2003, dưới đây viết tắt là ADB (2003).
- Francis Fukuyama, *State-Buiding: Governance and World Order in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Cornell University Press, 2004 (chương 1 và 2), bản dịch của Kim Chi.
- Juzhong Zhuang, Emmanuel de Dios, và Anneli Lagman-Martin, ADB, *Mối liên hệ giữa Quản trị nhà nước và chất lượng thể chế đối với trưởng kinh tế và sự bất bình đẳng thu nhập: Tình huống của các quốc gia châu Á đang phát triển*, Số 193 / Tháng 2 năm 2010, dưới đây viết tắt là J Zhuang et al (2010).

References:

- Papi: [www.papi.vn](http://www.papi.vn) (UNDP, Mặt trận tổ quốc, Cocodes)
- WGI: <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.asp>

- Nguồn văn bản: [www.chinhphu.vn](http://www.chinhphu.vn) (hệ thống văn bản), hoặc Quốc hội: cơ sở dữ liệu luật Việt Nam: <http://vietlaw.gov.vn/LAWNET/>
- Tạp chí Nghiên cứu lập pháp: <http://www.nclp.org.vn/>
- Dự thảo luật: <http://duthaonline.quochoi.vn/> ; [www.vibonline.com.vn](http://www.vibonline.com.vn)
- GS Daron Acemoglu (MIT): <http://econ-www.mit.edu/faculty/acemoglu/>
- GS James A Robinson (HKS): <http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~jrobins/>

## Schedule

<b>PART I: Public Governance: Concept and Relationship with Development</b>	
19/02/2013 G-0	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overall introduction</li> <li>- Course requirements</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <p>Daron Acemoglu, <i>What makes a country rich?</i> MIT 2009 Acemoglu: Chapter 1 (7-45)</p>
21/02/2013 G-1	<p><b>Concept Of Public Governance, Formal and Informal Institutions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concept of Institution: Formal vs. Informal</li> <li>- Public Governance vs. State Management</li> <li>- The Cores of Public Governance</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- J Zhuang et al (2010)</li> </ul> <p>Trần Văn Tùng (2011) <i>Thế chế với sự thịnh vượng của quốc gia</i></p> <p>Optional readings: ADB, <i>The Role of Public Administration in Alleviating Poverty and Improving Governance</i>, 2003</p>
26/02/2013 G-2	<p><b>Government's functions: Relationship between Public Governance and Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Requirements of good governance</li> <li>- Measurement of Public Governance Quality</li> <li>- Relationship between Public Governance and sustainable development</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <p>Fukuyama (2004), <i>Chapter 1</i> Acemoglu, Chapters 2-3 (45-96)</p>
28/02/2013 G-3	<p><b>Issues of Importing Modern Institutions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview of Institution Importation</li> <li>- Conditions for Successful Transplantation of Institution</li> </ul> <p>Required Readings:</p> <p>Fukuyama (2004), <i>Chapter 2</i></p>

	<p>- Acemoglu, Chapter 6 (152-182), 11-12 (302-368)</p> <p><b>Optional readings:</b></p> <p>Joern Dosch et al, <i>The Impact of China on Governance Structures in Vietnam</i>, German Development Institute, Discussion Paper 14/2008</p> <p>Liesbet Steer et al, <i>Formal and Informal Institutions in a Transition Economy: The Case of Vietnam</i>, World Development 2010</p>
	<p><b>PART II: Public Administration and Accountability</b></p>
<p>05/03/2013 G-4</p>	<p><b>Democracy, Mandate and Functions of People Representative Bodies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legitimacy of Government</li> <li>- Overview of representative democracy</li> <li>- Legislative power</li> <li>- Functions of people elected bodies</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ADB 2003, <i>Chapter 1</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional readings:</b> Bùi Mẫn Hân, <i>Sự cai trị của ĐCS TQ là mong manh hay bền vững</i>, <i>Tạp chí Thời đại mới</i>, Tháng 7, 2012</p>
<p>07/03/2013 G-5</p>	<p><b>Determinants of Central Government Accountability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Accountability perspectives</li> <li>- Perspective of effective and efficient government</li> <li>- Administration, civil servant and bureaucracy</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ADB 2003, <i>Chapters 2-3</i></li> <li>- Dự thảo <i>Nghị định quy định về trách nhiệm giải trình</i></li> </ul>
<p>13/03/2013 G-6</p>	<p><b>Determinants of Local Government Accountability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview of local and regional governments</li> <li>- Delegation and decentralization</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ADB 2003, <i>Chapters 4-5</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional readings:</b> Nguyễn Cửu Việt, Trương Đắc Linh, <i>Sửa đổi Hiến pháp nhìn từ chiến lược phân cấp quản lý</i>, <i>Tạp chí Khoa học Pháp lý</i>, ĐH Luật TP HCM, số 03/2011, tr. 3-11.</p>
<p>14/03/2013 G-7</p>	<p><b>Government resources management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Budgeting: policy analysis point of view</li> <li>- Management of enterprises with state capital</li> <li>- Public procurement</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ADB 2003 Chapter 6-9</li> </ul>
<p>19/03/2013</p>	<p><b>Policy Toward Public Officials and Civil Servants</b></p>

G-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public officials and civil servants: Overview of right and obligations</li> <li>- Recruitment, assessment, and training</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>ADB 2003 Chapters 10-12</i></li> <li>- <i>VBPL: Luật Cán bộ-công chức (2009), Luật Viên chức (2011)</i></li> <li>- <i>Article: “Cán bộ phường...đông như quân Nguyên”</i></li> </ul>
<b>PART III: People Participation</b>	
21/03/2013 G-9	<p><b>Overview of Public Participation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concept and overview of public participation channels in government operation</li> <li>- Promoting cooperation</li> <li>- Social defending by Fatherland Front</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>ADB 2003 Chapters 13-14</i></li> <li>- <i>Oxfam 2012, Tăng cường tiếng nói cộng đồng để lựa chọn đúng đắn</i></li> </ul>
26/03/2013 G-10	<p><b>Monitoring Government by People Representative Bodies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Constituency, public elected agency and its monitoring activities</li> <li>- Effectiveness and legal consequences of public elected agency monitoring</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>PDN Chuyên đề về hiệu lực giám sát của cơ quan dân cử</i></li> </ul>
28/03/2013 G-11	<p><b>Civil Society and NGOs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society notion</li> <li>- Draft law on association: current situation in Vietnam</li> <li>- Case study: Vụ án Đoàn Văn Vươn</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>ADB 2003 Chapter 15</i></li> <li>- <i>Cao Huy Thuần (2004), Xã hội dân sự</i></li> </ul>
2/04/2013 G-12	<p><b>Enterprises and Government: The role of business association to policy-making process</b></p> <p>Optional readings: David Baron, <i>Business and its Environment</i>, Stanford University 2010, Introduction (Overview)</p> <p>CAMS 2011: Thay đổi cảm nhận của người dân Việt Nam về Nhà nước và thị trường năm 2011</p>
4/04/2013 G-13	<p><b>Access to Information: Building a Transparent Government</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Demand for Information</li> <li>- Right to access information of the public</li> <li>- Government obligation toward information access</li> <li>- Draft law on information access in Vietnam</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Required readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Joseph Stiglitz, <i>Sự minh bạch trong chính phủ</i>, in trong: Ngân hàng thế giới, Quyền được nói: Vai trò của truyền thông đại chúng trong phát triển kinh tế, NXB Văn hóa Thông tin (2006) pages 33-55</li> <li>- ADB 2003 Chapter 16</li> <li>- Dự thảo Luật tiếp cận thông tin</li> </ul>
	<p><b>PART IV: Policy Options and Recommendations, and student presentations (group seminar)</b></p>
11/04/2013 AM	<p><i>Group 1: Presentations on grassroots democracy, public and business participation in local policies.</i></p>
11/04/2013 PM	<p><i>Group 2: Presentations on increasing business participation in government economic regulating policy</i></p>
12/04/2013 AM	<p><i>Group 3: Presentations on increasing transparent government, right to access informations of people, freedom of the press and monitoring government by people and civil society</i></p>
12/04/2013 PM	<p><i>Group 4: Presentations on measuring public governance performance, policy draft and recommendation to the public sector, performance of the public servants, and policies on preventing and fighting against corruption.</i></p>