

14.471 - Public Finance IMeetings:

The course will meet Mondays and Wednesdays for lectures from 2:30-4:00, and Fridays for recitations from 12:00-1:00, in E51-361. The recitations will cover supplementary material and review problem sets. The teaching assistant for the course is Hui Shan (huishan@mit.edu).

Requirements:

There will be five problem sets, a mid-term take-home exercise, and an in-class final exam. The problem sets will count for roughly 20% of the grade, the mid-term for about 30%, and the final for the other 50%. The mid-term exam will be distributed on Wednesday October 18. It will cover material on Sections 1-3 of the reading list, and it will be due on Monday, October 23. The final exam will be on Wednesday, December 13, in class. It will cover all of the material in the course. Problem sets will be distributed on September 18 (due 9/27), October 4 (due 10/11), November 1 (due 11/8), November 15 (due 11/22), and November 27 (due 12/4).

14.471 Home Page:

The 14.471 home page (<http://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/14/fa06/14.471/>) has copies of the reading list, problem sets, handouts and problem set answer sheets.

Office Hours:

Informal office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays before class, 1-2:30, in E52-243G (Golosov) or E52-373a (Poterba). To make appointments at other times, just send email to [golosov@mit.edu](mailto:golosov@mit.edu) or [poterba@mit.edu](mailto:poterba@mit.edu).

Public Finance Field Requirements:

The Public Finance major field requirement consists of two courses: 14.471 and 14.472 (Public Finance I & II). In addition, 14.471 can be combined with any of 14.472, 14.474 (Advanced Topics in Public Economics), or 14.475 (Environmental Economics and Government Responses to Market Failure) to satisfy the requirements of a minor field.

Public Finance Seminar and Luncheon Meeting:

The public finance seminar plays an important role in exposing students to current "hot topics" of research, and in permitting students to meet some of the outstanding scholars in the field. Seminars take place Monday afternoons from 4:00-5:30 in E51-151. The fall seminar is joint with the MIT Labor Economics seminar, and it consists primarily of presentations by students who are currently finishing their doctoral research. The spring seminar is joint with the Harvard Public Economics seminar. Schedules, seminar notices, and papers are usually available in E52-352. First and second year students intending to specialize in public finance are encouraged to attend. We also have an informal Monday luncheon in E52-398 where thesis writers present their work in progress. Students planning to specialize in public finance are welcome to attend.