

FURTHER PARTICULARS

Seminar Leaders for Economics of Public Policy Michaelmas 2025

Overview of role

The Blavatnik School of Government is seeking to engage Seminar Leaders to join the teaching team of the Economics of Public Policy course within the [Master of Public Policy \(MPP\)](#) in Michaelmas Term 2025.

Public policy leaders frequently interact with professional economists. The Economics of Public Policy course aims to prepare MPP graduates for this interaction by developing the skills necessary to become a critical consumer of economic thinking. During the first three weeks of the course, students are introduced to the fundamental principles of classical economic thinking. Weeks 4-7 cover applied economic policy topics such as taxation, poverty and welfare, cost-benefit analysis, and public procurement. In Week 8, students select choices from a range of options (including education, health, climate and the environment, competition policy and jobs, and innovation among others). Seminars run in Weeks 1-7 only.

As a Seminar Leader, you will have the opportunity to lead seminars, attend sessions held by lecturers, attend team meetings and assess student work.

This is a unique opportunity for postdoctoral researchers, college lecturers, and doctoral students to gain valuable teaching experience at a graduate level. You will have the opportunity to engage with highly motivated students drawn from across the world who bring a range of professional and policy experiences, often at senior levels.

You will be required to undertake the Social Sciences Division Preparation for Learning and Teaching course if you have not already received equivalent training. <http://www.learning.ox.ac.uk/support/teaching/programmes/plto/>.

The Master in Public Policy (MPP)

The MPP aims to develop practitioners rather than academics. Our current MPP class consists of 150+ students from different countries and territories around the world. Our students have all been selected because of their outstanding academic achievements, their proven commitment to public service, and their capacity to show leadership and have real world impact. Students come from a range of different academic and socio-economic backgrounds and come with different levels of policy experience and exposure. Student profiles are available at <http://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/people>.

Responsibilities

You will join the Economics of Public Policy teaching team:

- Professor [Clare Leaver](#) (course co-convenor)
- Dr [Irem Gucer](#) (course co-convenor)
- Dr [Craig Holmes](#) (seminar convenor lecturer)
- Professor [Anandi Mani](#) (course lecturer)
- Professor [Stefan Dercon](#) (course lecturer)

Duties:

- Act as seminar leader for two seminar groups, holding 90-minute long weekly seminars with groups of 8-10 students. Each leader's seminars will be held in consecutive slots on Friday mornings, with planning meetings taking place earlier in the week.

To cover the relevant material, this requires you to:

- Follow the lectures and sessions held by lecturers so you know what students have discussed with lecturers prior to the seminar.
 - Be acquainted with the key readings on the reading list
- Send a summary of the week's seminars and some key takeaway points at the end of the week to your seminar students.
- Attend weekly planning meetings to coordinate seminar teaching material.
- Attend an introductory course meeting and a seminar teaching induction session before the start of Michaelmas Term.
- Mark and provide feedback on two formative assignments for each seminar student.
- Help with office hours as students prepare for summative assessment.

All course duties will be completed by week 0 of Hilary Term 2026.

Hours:

- Weekly contact time with students: 3 hours
- Estimated preparation time and marking, including attendance of weekly lectures, team meetings and seminar preparation: 6.5 hours.

Seminar Leaders can expect to devote approximately 93 hours throughout the term.

Tasks	Duration	Frequency	Estimate of Total Hours
Training and pre-term induction	4 hours	Once, beginning of term	4 hours
Weekly Seminars	90 minutes	Weekly per Group	90min x 2 groups x 7 weeks = 21 hours
Reading of core material	2 hours	Weekly	2hrs x 7 weeks = 14 hours
Preparation time, including team meetings	2 hours	Weekly	2hrs x 7 weeks = 14 hours
Attending lecture	2.5 hours	Weekly	2.5hrs x 7 weeks = 17.5 hours
Office hours	75 minutes	Weeks 7 and 8 of term	75 mins x 2 weeks = 2.5 hours
Formative marking	Approx. 10 hours per assignment	2 assignments per Term	10hrs x 2 assignments = 20 hours
			Total Hours = 93

Selection criteria

- Experience of research in a relevant field of economics.
- Ability to relate theoretical issues to applied, policy problems, and deliver to a non-economist audience
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- A systematic, thorough and well-organised approach to work.
- A committed and collaborative team player.
- Relevant previous teaching experience.

Pay rate

Payment will be at the rate of £18.43 per hour (Grade 6.1), plus rolled-up holiday pay of 12.07% for each hour worked.

How to apply

If you are qualified and interested, please email recruit@bsg.ox.ac.uk with your CV and a one-page cover letter highlighting your most relevant experience and the contribution you would make, with "Seminar Leader Economics – Michaelmas 2025" in the subject line.

We welcome applications from those currently based in the UK, or overseas and who plan to be in Oxford from October 2025 for the duration of the Michaelmas term.

Please note that you must have the right to work in the UK at the time of teaching.

The closing date for applications is **12 noon (UK time) on Monday 12 May 2025**.

We expect to hold online interviews at the end of May or in early June.