



OSUN Summer Workshop

Public Finance and Economic Policy

2022 OSUN-EDI Summer Workshop

June 6-10, 2022

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson

The Open Society University Network (OSUN) welcomes undergraduate applications for its summer workshop in Public Finance and Economic Policy. Organized and hosted by the OSUN Economic Democracy Initiative (EDI), this five-day workshop is for undergraduate students interested in public policy to tackle economic instability and insecurity, and in understanding the financing capacity and policy space available to governments to pursue these aims.

All undergraduate students, regardless of whether they attend an OSUN institution or not, are welcome. Applicants from partner OSUN institutions are eligible for financial assistance and are especially encouraged to apply.

OSUN students pursuing the Certificate in Applied Economic Policy, may substitute their summer workshop participation for one of the certificate's elective courses.

COVID and the climate crisis have taught us that governments must act decisively to tackle the most pressing challenges before us, and not leave solutions exclusively to private actors. These developments have led to a rethinking of the role of the state on a global scale. How shall we think about the policy options before different governments? What are their abilities to achieve them? What kind of real or financial constraints do they face? This workshop will provide students with a new framework for thinking about these questions and with concrete tools and techniques to explore these policy-relevant concerns.

Bard

Learning Objectives

During the OSUN-EDI Summer Workshop, students will:

1. Develop a new framework for thinking about economic stabilization, full and meaningful employment, poverty alleviation, and policies to address climate change and COVID-related concerns.
2. Explore current research on rethinking the role of the state in economic policy and the nature of public finance.
3. Produce a basic stock-flow consistent analysis of government budgets, with an appreciation of institutional differences across countries.
4. Receive training in the balance-sheet approach to government spending and taxation.
5. Apply these methodological and analytical insights to policy-relevant questions.

Format

The Summer Workshop consists of a mix of traditional lectures, breakout discussions, group projects and assignments, and applied economic analysis.

To apply

Please submit the following to edi@opensocietyuniversitynetwork.org:

1. Your [application form](#)
2. Your current transcript
3. A letter of motivation
4. A short email recommendation from your faculty or advisor.

Space is limited, spots will be allocated subject to a successful application. For all accepted applicants, tuition, room and board are covered. OSUN participants are eligible for travel assistance, in addition to tuition and room and board.

For priority consideration, applicants are strongly encouraged to apply by December 31, 2021.

Workshop Schedule

Day 1: Urgent Questions, New Insights

Day 2: Government Budgets in Context: A Macroeconomic Framework

Day 3: Connecting Stocks and Flows: The Balance Sheet Approach

Day 4: Bottom-Up Government Policies

Day 5: Further Explorations in Public Policy