



Masterclass on the conceptual foundations of public governance

Prof. B. Guy Peters, University of Pittsburgh

26 October 2016

**Course organised by the Wageningen School of Social Sciences (WASS) in cooperation
with the Public Administration and Policy (PAP), Environmental Policy (ENP), and
Forest and Nature Policy (FNP) groups,
Wageningen University**

Introduction & objectives of the course

This class will examine the conceptual foundations of contemporary public governance, interrogating key ideas and concepts that currently frame governance theory and practices. Recent decades have witnessed shifts of societal steering from 'traditional' hierarchic government to public-private networks surrounding 'complex' or 'wicked' problems. These shifts have been accompanied by a rapid development of governance theories, studying new modes of governance (e.g. network governance, collaborative governance, adaptive governance, interactive governance), new types of policy instruments, ideational dynamics (belief systems, framing, discourse coalitions), and challenges of coordination and integration, inter alia. Getting to grips with conceptual innovation is important for scholars as they seek both to understand the complex evolution of governance, and to be more rigorous and self-conscious about conceptual usage in their own research practice.

This master class will allow students to explore the evolution of the conceptual field of public governance; to interrogate critically the concepts which play a central role in governance practices and innovations; and to present conceptual problems they are experiencing in their own research for collective discussion. Since the topic is broad, the aim of this short course is not to provide exhaustive coverage of individual concepts but rather to present an historical overview, to examine approaches to conceptual analysis, to explore a series of conceptual exemplars, and to focus on conceptual issues students are wrestling within their own research activities. Students will be asked to nominate up to three concepts -- which they find particularly interesting or important for their research work -- when they register for the class, and as much as possible these will be incorporated into the discussion.

Target group and learning objectives

The masterclass is targeted at PhD candidates who engage with governance concepts or dynamics in their own research. The day provides these PhDs with an opportunity to put their research into context as well as to discuss concepts they use or find of interest.

Learning objectives:

- to explore methods of conceptual analysis in public governance;
- to encourage advanced reflection about the important conceptual categories being invoked in the area of public governance;
- to enable students to interrogate conceptual categories important for their own research activities.

Assumed prior knowledge

Participants are assumed to be familiar with scholarly debates about governance and to have some experience with using governance concepts or studying governance dynamics in their own PhD research.

Course fees

For PhDs of WASS there is a fee of 75 euros. For all other participants and for staff members (fellows/post docs), there is a fee of 150 euros for the whole course (including drinks, lunches and course materials).

Session Times

The masterclass on the conceptual foundations of public governance is scheduled for 26 October 2016 from 09:00 to 17:00 h.

Outline of the Course in Hours

8 hours on the day itself (including lunch and breaks). Participants will have to prepare the masterclass by reading a selection of relevant literature. In addition, students are required to write a text of max. 300 words in which they elaborate up to three governance-related concepts that they use in their own research (see requirements below).

Teaching methods

Reading literature; intensive roundtable discussion.

Requirements and ECTS

For each master class, 0.5 credits can be granted. Successful completion requires preparation, attendance and active participation in both meetings of that module.

A maximum of ten PhD candidates can participate in the masterclass. The selection will be based on a 300-words text that candidates need to submit when registering. In the text, candidates elaborate up to three governance-related concepts that they use in their own research and describe what they want to get out of the masterclass. Be explicit about struggles, questions, challenges, etc. that you are dealing with.

Course Schedule

- 10 October 2016 (latest): students will receive selection of literature
- 26 October 2016: masterclass

Location

The sessions will be held in room C67 in the building “De Leeuwenborch”, Hollandseweg 1 in Wageningen, The Netherlands.

Registration

Registration is possible until 15 September, after which a review panel will select the ten abstracts that are clearest about what concepts a candidate wants to discuss and what the candidate wants to get out of the masterclass. Notification of acceptance or rejection of the abstract is no later than 29 September.

Registration is possible electronically via the WASS courses page:

<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-School-of-Social-Sciences/Courses/Registration.htm>

The maximum number of participants is set at 10, the minimum at 8.

Please make sure that you provide the most recent contact details so that in case of any changes you will be notified promptly. After your internet registration you will receive a short notification that your name has been registered. At least two weeks before the course you will receive a confirmation about the location and the schedule. WASS will also send an invoice to the address indicated in the registration form.

Please e-mail to Marcella.Haan@wur.nl in case you have not received the second confirmation two weeks before the course.

Cancellations

Cancellations may be made free of charge until 1 month before the start of the course. Cancellation fee of 100 % applies if participants cancel the course less than 1 month prior to the course. The organisers have a right to cancel the course not later than 1 month before the course starts. The participants will be notified of any changes at their e-mail addresses.

Further information

On course content please contact the course organiser, Jeroen Candel of the Public Administration and Policy Group. He can be reached by sending an e-mail to jeroen.candel@wur.nl

On WASS: www.wageningenur.nl/wass

For details about the logistics, accommodation, registration, fees, study materials, etc. please contact Marcella Haan
Tel +31 317 484126
Marcella.haan@wur.nl

Contact addresses:

Wageningen School of Social Sciences
Wageningen University
Hollandseweg 1
6706 KN WAGENINGEN
The Netherlands

Useful information on accommodation for participants from outside Wageningen

Hotels:

Hof van Wageningen: 62.50 euro for 1 persons room, 70 euros for 2 persons room, both prices are including breakfast;
www.hofvanwageningen.nl

Hotel de Wageningseberg: 85 euro for 2 persons room, also including breakfast;
<http://hoteldewageningseberg.nl/en/>

Hotel Nol in 't Bosch: 79 euro for 1 person room, 85 euro for 2 persons room, also including breakfast; <http://www.nolintbosch.nl/>

Bed&Breakfast:

See: <https://www.bedandbreakfast.nl/bed-and-breakfast/wageningen/netherlands/c2745088>

B& B De Heksenspeeltuin: 30 euro for a 1 person room
Address: Einthovenstraat 15, 6706JA Wageningen
Phone: +31 317-418161
E-mail: callyd@zonnet.nl
Website: www.heksenspeeltuin.nl

Villaria Bed en Breakfast: 39-58 euro for a 1 person room

Address: Nassauweg 21, 6703CG Wageningen
Phone: +31 317-419636
Email: info@villaria.nl
Website: <http://villaria.nl/>
Possibilities to rent a bike

Ons Bakhuus Bed & Breakfast: 45 euro for a 1 person room
Address: Dolderstraat 64, 6706 JG Wageningen
Phone: +31 317-411994
E-mail: info@onsbakhuis.nl
Website: www.onsbakhuis.nl

De Herbergh Bed & Breakfast: 60 euro for a 1 person room
Address: Generaal Foulkesweg 8, 6703 BR Wageningen
Phone: +31 317-410747
E-mail: glindenbergh@wanadoo.nl
Website: <https://www.bedandbreakfast.nl/bed-and-breakfast/wageningen/de-herbergh/3269/>

Toproom B&B: 55 euro for a 1 person room
Vossenlaan 17
6705 CD Wageningen-Hoog
Phone: +31 317-450214
E-mail: info@toproom.nl
Website: www.toproom.nl
Possibilities to rent a bike

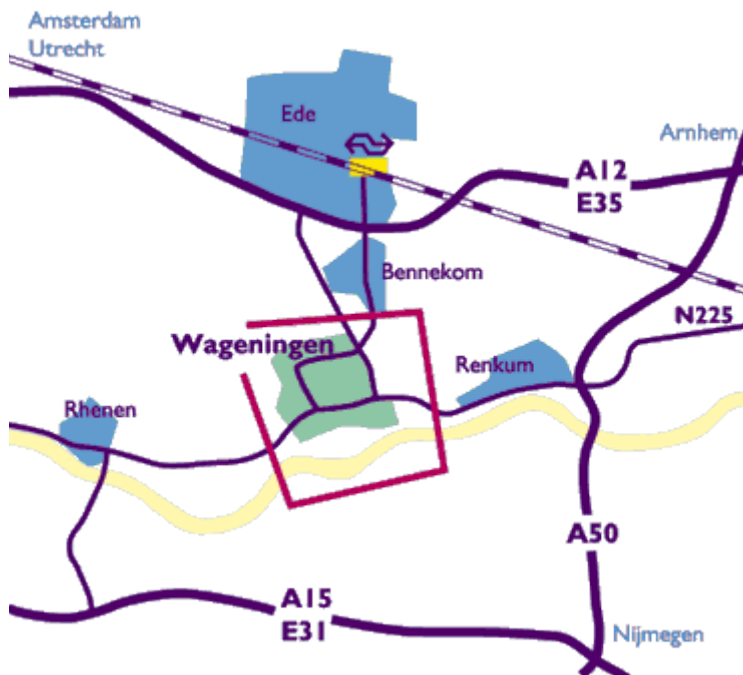
From Schiphol Amsterdam Airport to Wageningen

At the Airport you can buy a train ticket in the 'arrivals' area by the baggage claims. You will see the sign "Train tickets" near the exit. Then follow the signs 'Nederlandse Spoorwegen' (NS) or 'Trains and busses' to the railway station.

Purchase a one-way ticket to the Ede-Wageningen train station, this will cost € 14,10 (plus a service charge if you buy the ticket at the ticket counter). It is also possible to buy the ticket from the ticket vending machines in the station.

There are direct connections from Schiphol Amsterdam Airport to Ede-Wageningen every 30 minutes. Additionally, twice an hour there is a connecting service from Schiphol to Ede-Wageningen where you have to change trains in Utrecht. The destination boards on the platform will indicate the different stations where the train will stop. Check for the names Ede-Wageningen or Utrecht and board the train and when necessary change in Utrecht. The trip from Schiphol to Ede-Wageningen takes you a bit more than one hour.

For Dutch train connections use www.ns.nl, www.thalys.com, www.db.de



The train station is not located directly in Wageningen. This lack is fully compensated by fair means of transportation by buses and taxis. From railway station Ede-Wageningen you can take a taxi (approx. 15 min.). Taxis leave at the north side of the station. You can also come by bus: line 52 (direction Wageningen/ Arnhem) departs from the north side of the station or bus line 88 (Valleilijn, direction Wageningen) leaves from the south side of the station. You have to purchase a ticket from the driver in the bus, which will cost about 2 euros.