Course description and reading list

Introduction
The course is structured in three tightly integrated modules that illuminate different aspects of contemporary governance.

Module I: On crisis and turbulence

We live in a near-chronic state of crisis-induced turbulence that calls for a new type of governance that must be based on improvisation, agility and fast learning and supported by institutions permitting negotiated knowledge production, adaptation to new and unforeseen problems and innovation of new solutions when the standard solutions are found wanting. In this section we discuss concepts of crisis and turbulence, and how such concepts influence our analysis of public governance.

Readings:

Ansell, C. and J. Trondal (2017) 'Turbulent governance', in C. Ansell, J. Trondal and M. Ogard (eds.) *Governance in Turbulent Times*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ansell, C. and J. Trondal (2017) 'Governing turbulence. An organizational-institutional agenda', *Perspectives on Public Management and Governance* 1(1): 43-57.

Riddervold, M., J. Trondal and A. Newsome (2021) ´European Union crisis: An introduction´, in M. Riddervold, J. Trondal and A. Newsome (eds.) (2021) *The Palgrave Handbook of EU Crises*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan.

Module II: On robustness and resilience

Robust governance aims to match the dynamic character of disruptive problems and events with continuous adjustments and innovations in governance solutions. As such, it goes beyond the immediate crisis response discussed by the crisis management literature and the long-stretched efforts to enhance preparedness and resilience. This second module will discuss an analytical framework that captures this predicament, and outline robustness as a new agenda for public governance and administration research.

Readings:

Ansell, C., E. Sørensen, J. Torfing and J. Trondal (2023) *Robust Governance in Turbulent Times*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (forthcoming).

Module III: Organization theory and sustainable public governance

Sustainable public governance is a necessary condition for public service provision. However, times of turbulence increasingly question the sustainability of public sector organizations and reliable public service delivery. In response to this, a vast body of scholarly literature suggests that public sector organizations are profoundly unstable and unsustainable in the

long run. As a contrast, however, this module suggests that public governance might be profoundly sustainable when resting on a relatively stable organizational fabric. To support this argument, this last module outlines the contours of an organizational-institutional approach to public governance studies. In addition, this module takes the organizational approach one step further towards a design approach in political science: organization structure may arguably be an important *design instrument* of the context of choice in public governance. In effect, this module offers an avenue to build bridges between the academic and practitioner worlds of public administration.

Readings:

Ansell, C., E. Sørensen and J. Torfing (2022) ´public administration and politics meet turbulence: The search for robust governance responses´, *Public Administration*, DOI: 10.1111/padm.12874.

Egeberg, M. and J. Trondal (2018) *An Organizational Approach to Public Governance*. *Understanding and Design*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.