



Policies need explaining. Each solution usually meets vastly different interests of diverse stakeholders. In the **contextual studies**, you thus search for opportunities to improve your communication skills, to learn about conflict resolution, and delve into topics of political science. Finally, your interest in the **Master's Thesis** is about inequality and social mobility. You want to gather data and study whether the top 1% are mostly from working people and business owners who inherit wealth and earn income by lobbying and collecting monopoly profits, or whether it stems from start-up entrepreneurs and individuals with successful careers who start from the bottom and make it to the top. You would like to explore the empirical determinants of social mobility and top incomes. The topic links well with your choice of elective courses.

Jobs: Typical jobs requiring a public policy expertise are in government institutions, OECD, industry organisations, labour unions or independent think tanks. Research institutes specialised in public sector economics, social security, or related fields are key employers (e.g. Institute of Fiscal Studies in London, KOF in Zürich, Ifo in Munich, ZEW in Mannheim, IZA Institute of Labor Economics in Bonn and the likes). To keep up career chances in academics and applied research, a PhD is also on the agenda.

Formal Requirements:

In order to graduate with a declared specialisation on the diploma supplement in **Public Policy**, students need to gain at least 16 ECTS credits a defined course list and write their Master's thesis in the area of **Public Policy**. The current course list can you find on our [programme website](#).

Contact

For questions regarding your study plan and the specialisations, please contact the Executive Director of the Master's degree programme in Economics: mecon@unisg.ch or +41 (0)71 224 29 26.