

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

**PhD-course 'Organisational Theory Approaches to the Study of Public Policy and Administration'**

17 - 19 October, 2012

Course leaders: Tom Christensen, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo,

and Rokkan Centre, University of Bergen

Morten Egeberg, Department of Political Science and ARENA – Centre for

European Studies, University of Oslo

Other lecturers: Johan P. Olsen, ARENA, University of Oslo

Åse Gornitzka, Department of Political Science and ARENA, University of

Oslo

Theme

The course aims at giving an overview of some organisation theory approaches and their application in empirical research. One key focus is on explaining organizational and institutional change. Another is on the effects of organisational and institutional change. How do organisations' structure, institutionalisation, demography and locus affect actual decision behaviour? Empirical examples are mainly drawn from the executive branch of government at the national, supranational and local level.

Course plan

*Wednesday 17.10*

11.15h-13.00h Introduction: Concepts, relationships, organisation design (Morten Egeberg)

14.15h-16.00h Effects of organisation structure on actual decision behaviour (Morten Egeberg)

16.15h-18.00h The cultural perspective: Path-dependency and compatibility (Tom Christensen)

### Thursday 18.10

09.15h-11.00h The «garbage can»-model (Johan P. Olsen)

11.15h-13.00h How to explain change in organisations? (Åse Gornitzka)

14.15h-16.00h Hybridity – causes, design and effects (Tom Christensen)

16.15h-18.00h Effects of organisation demography and locus on actual decision behaviour (Morten Egeberg)

### Friday 19.10

09.15h-11.00h Reform of the Norwegian welfare administration – a typical post-NPM reform? (Tom Christensen)

11.15h-13.00h The new institutionalism (Johan P. Olsen)

14.15h-16.00h Course papers: discussion on potential themes (Tom Christensen and Morten Egeberg)

### Literature

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