

Program of the Summer School «Public Policy and Management»

Version: 16/03/2026

This Summer School is designed to provide participants with insights into a diverse set of public sector-related topics and the necessary analytical skills to take their study to the next level. Participants will also learn how to search research databases and apply AI-assisted techniques to review, organize and synthesize literature.

The one-week course (6 ECTS) combines lectures with workshop sessions, where participants can work on their own projects. At the end of the course, students will be able to use the latest tools to systematically review the state of the art in a specific area.

The event will bring together internationally renowned scholars to discuss with participants innovative topics at the intersection of public policy and public management. This includes:

- Innovative approaches to public policy such as the Narrative Policy Framework and street-level bureaucracy
- Tackling complex societal challenges in public health, infrastructure governance or social policy
- Managing the public sector within organizations (e.g., change management) and across levels (e.g., intergovernmental relations,)
- Boundary spanning topics such as the transnational influence of public managers or digital transformation at the nexus of public policy and management

Date: August 31 until September 4, 2026

Venue: ZHAW School of Management and Law, Building MB (Haus Tista Murk), room **MB XXX**, Turbinenstrasse 2, 8400 Winterthur (Canton Zurich).

Faculty/ speakers: see [website of the summer school](#)

Assessment: Grades (or pass/fail if required) are based on a group presentation at the end of the course summarizing the process and results of participant's systematic literature review (incl. a short documentation of the different steps) .

Organizational notes:

All course material will be available on Moodle (click [here](#)).

Preparation

- External participants need to create a [Switch-Edu-ID-Account](#) in order to be able to use Campus wifi and access the Moodle course.
- Sign in to the [Moodle](#) course of the Summer School.
- Read [Siddaway et al \(2019\)](#)
- Watch [Video ASReview](#) (54min)
- [Download](#) and install *ASReview* locally on your computer: ASReview is a free (Libre) open-source machine learning tool for screening and systematically labeling an extensive collection of textual data.
 - If you have troubles starting the program, use the command “python -m asreview lab”
 - At the start of the course, you should be able to open ASReview on your computer.
- Create a **Web of Science** [Account](#) and familiarize yourself with the [advanced search](#) function
- Read «Darren Schreiber’s “**Five Questions and Eight Stages for Reading an Academic Paper**” and **practice with at least five papers** listed below for the individual sessions. All texts are available on Moodle and [here](#).
- Share your experience with specific review-support tools (AI-based or “regular”) by completing the Miro-Board [here](#)
- Having installed a literature management software (Zotero, Citavi, Endnote, etc) is highly recommended.
- If you have little experience with public management and public policy, these books provide a good introductions to the topics:
 - Knill, C., & Tosun, J. (2012). *Public Policy: A new introduction*. Palgrave Macmillan.
 - Hassel, A., & Wegrich, K. (2022). *How to do public policy*. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198747000.001.0001>
 - Rosenbloom, D. H., Kravchuck, R., & Clerkin, R. M. (2015). *Public Administration: Understanding Management, Politics, and Law in the Public Sector* (8th edition). McGraw-Hill. [Full text](#).

Important

- Bring your laptop to the course!

Program

- ❖ **Kick-off meeting:** Online on **August X, 2026, X p.m. CEST**: Organizational issues, structure, required preparation, Q&A

Monday, August 31, 2026 (DAY1)	
08:30-09:15	<p>Opening Session (Jörn Ege)</p> <p>Introduction, get-2-know, What is a SLR?</p>
9:15-9:35	<p>Visit from Isabel and Deborah</p>
09:40-11:15	<p>Intro to Public Policy and Management (Jörn Ege)</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Hassel & Wegrich, 2022, Chapter 1</p>
11:20-12:50	<p>Keynote Lecture: Digital Transformation in European Local Governments (Reto Steiner)</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Polzer et al., 2023</p> <p><u>Topics for Review</u> Artificial Intelligence in Local Governments Electronic Voting in Local Governments</p>
	<p>Lunch</p>
13:50-14:35	<p>Workshop Session: Studying the role of administration in public policy: topics, concepts and cases (Jörn Ege)</p> <p>The throughput-output nexus as focal point for empirical public administration Group formation</p> <p><i>Goal: participants have found a group and research question for their systematic literature review</i></p>
15:00-16:35	<p>Workshop Session SLR: PRISMA, search strategies, databases (Jörn Ege)</p> <p>Inclusion/exclusion criteria for SLR, database search (esp. Web of Science), search strategy, literature extraction, the PRISMA scheme</p> <p><i>Goal: Participants have identified the inclusion/exclusion criteria and a sample of 500 to 3.000 potentially relevant articles for their SLR</i></p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Thomann et al., 2024 (example SLR)</p>
After the last session	<p>Opportunity for informal drinks</p>
Tuesday, September 1, 2026 (DAY2)	
08:30-10:15	<p>Hybrid governance of infrastructure sectors: Trade-offs between state and market logics (Eva Lieberherr)</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Thomann et al., 2016</p> <p><u>Topics for Review</u> Public-private relations in infrastructure governance Implications of different management models for accountability and performance</p>
10:30-12:05	<p>Bureaucratic Entrepreneurship in Health Policy (Céline Mavrot)</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Mintrom & Norman, 2009</p>

	<p><u>Topics for Review</u> Policy entrepreneurship in morality policies Policy entrepreneurship and street-level bureaucrats</p>
	Lunch
13:00-14:35	<p>Workshop Session: Screening and condensing the sample Part 1 (Jörn Ege)</p> <p>Intro to ASReview & exercise</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Siddaway et al., 2019</p>
15:00-16:35	<p>Workshop Session: Screening and condensing the sample Part 2 (Jörn Ege)</p> <p>Own application & coding scheme</p> <p><i>Goal: Participants have arrived at their final sample of relevant studies using ASReview (max. 100 articles).</i></p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Siddaway et al., 2019</p>
From 16:35	Meet your Buddy (ZHAW students only)
Wednesday, September 2, 2026 (DAY3)	
08:30-10:15	<p>Environmental governance: How to govern the commons in times of deep societal transformations (Katrin Pakizer)</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Ostrom, E. (2008). The Challenge of Common-Pool Resources. <i>Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development</i>, 50(4), 8–21. https://doi.org/10.3200/ENVT.50.4.8-21</p> <p><u>Topics for Review</u> Adaptive governance of natural resources Governance of global commons</p>
10:30-12:05	<p>The Role of Narratives in Public Policy (Johanna Künzler)</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Kuenzler, 2021</p> <p><u>Topics for Review:</u> The analysis of environmental policy with the Narrative Policy Framework Narrative Policy Framework applications in Europe</p>
	Lunch
13:00-14:35	<p>Change Management in the Digital Era (Oliver Neumann)</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Mergel et al., 2021</p> <p><u>Topics for review:</u> Leadership styles and successful change management Agile methods in Public Administration</p>
15:00-16:35	<p>Workshop Session: Developing the coding scheme (Jörn Ege)</p> <p><i>Goal: Participants have developed an adequate coding scheme to describe and analyze their sample.</i></p> <p>If you are finished earlier, you can watch me presenting a paper on the policy influence of international public administrations.</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Ege et al., 2021</p> <p><u>Topics for Review:</u> The policy influence of international bureaucrats</p>

Thursday, September 3, 2026 (DAY4)	
08:30-09:15	<p>Writing Impactful Reviews (Jörn Ege)</p> <p><u>Reading:</u> George et al., 2023</p> <p>Video input by <i>Bert George</i> (City University of Hong Kong)</p>
09:20-11:15	<p>Workshop Session: Structuring and assessing results (Jörn Ege)</p> <p>Structuring and assessing results by applying the coding scheme to your sample.</p> <p><i>Goal: Participants have coded the final sample</i></p> <p><u>Reading:</u> Siddaway et al., 2019</p>
11:20-12:50	<p>Workshop Session: Analysis and interpretation of results (Jörn Ege)</p> <p><i>Goal: Participants have summarized the results (using descriptive statistics, graphs), can provide an overview of the current research (what do we know) and identified gaps (what do we not know)</i></p>
	Lunch
13:50--16:35	<p>Workshop Session: Analysis and interpretation of results (Jörn Ege)</p> <p><i>Goal: Participants have summarized the results (using descriptive statistics, graphs), can provide an overview of the current research (what do we know) and identified gaps (what do we not know)</i></p>

Friday, September 4, 2026 (DAY5)	
08:30-9:15	Workshop Session: Finalization of group presentation (Jörn Ege)
09:20-12:05	Workshop Session 3 student presentation (Jörn Ege)
	Lunch
13.00-15:45	Workshop Session 3 student presentations (Jörn Ege)
15:50-16:35	<p>Closing session (Jörn Ege)</p> <p>Synthesis of course topics and feedback</p>

Essential readings

- Ege, J., Bauer, M. W., & Wagner, N. (2021). How do international bureaucrats affect policy outputs? Studying administrative influence strategies in international organizations. *International Review of Administrative Sciences*, 87(4), 737–754. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00208523211000109>
- George, B., Andersen, L. B., Hall, J. L., & Pandey, S. K. (2023). Writing impactful reviews to rejuvenate public administration: A framework and recommendations. *Public Administration Review*, 83(6), 1517–1527. <https://doi.org/10.1111/puar.13756>
- Hassel, A., & Wegrich, K. (2022). *How to do public policy*. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198747000.001.0001>
- Knill, C., & Tosun, J. (2012). *Public Policy: A new introduction*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Kuenzler, J. (2021). From zero to villain: Applying narrative analysis in research on organizational reputation. *European Policy Analysis*, 7(S2), 405–424. <https://doi.org/10.1002/epa2.1123>
- Mergel, I., Ganapati, S., & Whitford, A. B. (2021). Agile: A New Way of Governing. *Public Administration Review*, 81(1), 161–165. <https://doi.org/10.1111/puar.13202>
- Mintrom, M., & Norman, P. (2009). Policy Entrepreneurship and Policy Change. *Policy Studies Journal*, 37(4), 649–667.
- Polzer, T., Kaiser, C., Kühler, J., Machljankin, J., Marienfeldt, J., Marquardt, J., Kuhlmann, S., Meyer, R. E., Proeller, I., & Steiner, R. (2023). *Digital Transformation of Local Government Services in Europe: A Structured Literature Review*. Paper presented at the IRSPM Conference 2023, Budapest, 3-5 April.
- Rosenbloom, D. H., Kravchuck, R., & Clerkin, R. M. (2015). *Public Administration: Understanding Management, Politics, and Law in the Public Sector* (8th edition). McGraw-Hill.
- Siddaway, A. P., Wood, A. M., & Hedges, L. V. (2019). How to Do a Systematic Review: A Best Practice Guide for Conducting and Reporting Narrative Reviews, Meta-Analyses, and Meta-Syntheses. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 70, 747–770. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-psych-010418-102803>
- Thomann, E., James, O., & Deruelle, T. (2024). Interventions to reduce bureaucratic discrimination: a systematic review of empirical behavioural research. *Public Management Review*, 1–28. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14719037.2024.2322163>
- Thomann, E., Lieberherr, E., & Ingold, K. (2016). Torn between State and Market: Private Policy Implementation and Conflicting Institutional Logics. *Policy & Society*, 35(1), 57–69.

Recommended reading (PP&M)

Knill, C., & Tosun, J. (2012). *Public Policy: A new introduction*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Hassel, A., & Wegrich, K. (2022). *How to do public policy*. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198747000.001.0001>