The economics of public expenditures and finance provides a powerful framework for answering questions about public policy in the U.S. For example:

- When and how should government regulate the gasoline market?
- What will happen to Medicare and Social Security as the elderly population grows in the next decade?
- Do debt crises in the US require new taxes?
- Should governments finance higher education?

Students will also have the opportunity to evaluate and design proposals relating to regulatory, tax, and expenditure issues of personal interest.

**Prerequisite:** Econ 301 (Intermediate Micro) or instructor’s permission.