



Policies need explaining. Each solution usually meets vastly different interests of diverse stakeholders. In the **contextual studies**, she thus searches for opportunities to improve her communication skills, to learn about conflict resolution, and delve into topics of political science. Finally, her interest in the **Master thesis** is about inequality and social mobility. She wants 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. She would like to explore the empirical determinants of social mobility and top incomes. The topic links well with her choice of elective courses.

**Jobs:** Typical jobs requiring a public policy expertise are in government institutions, OECD, industry organizations, labour unions or independent think tanks. Research institutes specialized 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 as a Master in Economics with a declared specialisation on the diploma supplement in **Public Policy**, students need to gain at least 16 ECTS from the following courses and write their Master's thesis in the area of **Public Policy**.

8,260, 1.00 <i>Public Economics - The Economics of Taxation</i>	4 ECTS	spring
9,268, 1.00 <i>Political Economics</i>	4 ECTS	autumn
8,262, 1.00 <i>Labor Economics: Theory and Applications</i>	4 ECTS	spring
8,268, 1.00 <i>Quantitative Economic Policy</i>	4 ECTS	spring
8,280, 1.00 <i>Beyond Homo Oeconomicus: Decision Making and Wellbeing in Economics</i>	4 ECTS	spring
8,252, 1.00 <i>Advanced Macroeconomics III: Money and Prices</i>	4 ECTS	spring
8,250, 1.00 <i>Advanced Microeconomics III: Game Theory</i>	4 ECTS	spring
9,276, 1.00 <i>Debt and Fiscal Policy</i>	4 ECTS	autumn
9,272, 1.00 <i>Economics of Central Banking</i>	4 ECTS	autumn
9,260, 1.00 <i>Selected Topics in Swiss Public Finance</i>	4 ECTS	autumn

## Contact

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