



THE
**JOHN CURTIN
INSTITUTE**
OF PUBLIC POLICY

MARKETS AND GOVERNMENT 500

What?

A critical and enduring issue for public policy is the role assigned, by government, to the market. During the last three decades, a vast range of Australian public policies have been progressively restructured around the rhetoric and mechanisms of the market as the role of governments has been transformed in delivering policy outcomes. This unit examines: the shift to, and arguments for, market-based policies; the nature of markets; the market mechanisms used to deliver policy objectives; and the structure and operation of actually existing markets for policies with a widespread impact on the health, well-being and standard of living of the vast majority of Australians. Examples of markets to be analysed are private health insurance, housing for the low-income, carbon trading, water, electricity, education, human services and infrastructure provision.

When?

This Unit will be taught intensively at the Bentley campus (Building 100) over two weekends in 2009 - 22 and 23 August, and 10 and 11 October.

How?

The Unit comprises seminars, workshops and presentations. Videos, i-lectures, a class experiment, a case study and a simulation will be used to provide greater interactive learning. Learning outcomes are promoted by students having easy access, through FLECS-Blackboard, to many of the suggested readings, online submission of written assessments, and discussion forums for the exchange of ideas.

Who?

The Unit is ideally suited as an optional or elective unit for students enrolled in postgraduate coursework degrees in public administration, sustainability, social policy, business administration, management, health or any other postgraduate level course where students deal with policy issues relating to markets. No prior background in economics or commerce is required.

Unit Coordinator and Instructor

The Unit Coordinator and Instructor is Dr Lynne Chester, Senior Research Fellow, The John Curtin Institute of Public Policy. An economist, she has written extensively on the Australian electricity sector and her current research focus includes energy security, energy poverty, and markets driven by public policies. She has taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses in economics, public policy, risk management and research methods. Her public policy expertise, gained over 25 years in the public sector, extends from specific areas of knowledge to the process of decision-making, accountability and implementation across many areas of government activity.

How much?

The fee for this Unit in 2009 is \$2,400. The FEE-HELP Government Loan Scheme is available. (refer to: <http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/Main/Quickfind/PayingForYourStudiesHELPLoans/FEEHELP.htm>)

How do I enrol?

Contact The John Curtin Institute of Public Policy, jcipp@curtin.edu.au or (08) 9266 1111.