New Public Management (NPM) is the name of a set of ideas which have transformed not only the public sector in many countries, but also parts of the private sector. This course provides an introduction to NPM ideas – what they mean, why they emerged, how they are manifested in different contexts and what the implications of NPM may be. It shifts between different perspectives and encourages students to reflect independently on NPM. Other trends in the public sector, beyond NPM reforms, are also discussed, including trust-based public management (tillitsbaserad styrning).

Course participants will be actively involved in discussions on each seminar and they are also expected to apply the NPM literature to their own dissertation work in a final course paper.

Professors on the course are affiliated with the Department of Business Administration at Lund University and part of the group Public Management Research in Lund (PUMAR):

Louise Bringselius is Associate Professor at Lund University. She currently works primarily as Head of Research at the Swedish Commission for Trust-Based Public Management (den statliga utredningen Tillitsdelegationen, Fi2016:51). Her research spans from street-level bureaucracy, through governance issues, to state audit and evaluation.
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Anna Thomasson is Associate Professor at Lund University. She focuses in her research on governance and accountability issues in hybrid organizations and the impacts of NPM at a local governance level and has several publications within this field. Anna is also a member the research council of the current investigation on “Kommunutredningens” issued by the Swedish Government.
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To sign up for the course, please send an e-mail to charlina.lunvald@fek.lu.se with the form found at https://fek.lu.se/en/phd-studies/courses
Doctoral students from different subjects and universities are welcome.

Preliminary Schedule
Seminar 1, March 7th 1 pm–4 pm, Origin and spread of NPM
Seminar 2, March 21st 1 pm–4 pm, NPM and marketization
Seminar 3, April 4th, 1 pm–4 pm, Professions and NPM
Seminar 4, April, 18th, 1 pm–4 pm, Politics vs administration
Seminar 5, May 2nd, 1 pm–4 pm, Accountability and transparency
Seminar 6, May 16th, 1 pm–4 pm, Beyond NPM
Seminar 7, May 30th, 10 am–4 pm, Exam papers (final seminar)