

**TÍTULO DA TESE EM INGLÊS: *The Governing of University-related Public Higher Education in Portugal: education under the aegis of New Public Management***

New Public Management (NPM) is commonly referred to as the model that influences the reform process and determines the performance of Portugal's Public Universities as they variously pursue their mission. The present study aims to analyse the impact of the principles of NPM on Portugal's public universities as well as the impact caused on teaching by higher education modernisation measures. The study's theoretical framework covers the reform processes pervading the various geographies at work and the models that support them – notably the Governance and *Neo-Weberian* model –, while also contextualising them in terms of higher education and highlighting those aspects deemed critical for the functioning of universities. With the defined goals in mind, a literature review is offered, in combination with the relevant bibliography and the consultation of scholarly articles and institutional reports, both national and international. A questionnaire has also been developed, as well as an analysis of the collected data. The conclusions show that although the notions inherent in NPM are what drives the changes felt in university-related public higher education, all three narratives, and the osmotic area of reciprocal influence generated by them, end up influencing the multilevel performance of Portugal's Public Universities.

**Key Words:** Public Administration; university; autonomy; quality; funding; academics; technostructure; New Public Management; Governance.