European Integration: Theory and Political Process   2015/2016

Code: 42453
ECTS Credits: 10

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313335 Political Science	OT	0	1

Contact

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Teachers

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External teachers

Andrea Lanaia

Claire Colomb

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Use of languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge on the European integration process

Remedial readings:

-Bomberg, E., J. Peterson and A. Stubb (eds) (2008), *The EU: How does it work?*, Oxford: OUP

-Cini, M. (2009) *European Union Politics*, Oxford: OUP

-Hix, S. and B. Hoyland (2012) *The political system of the EU*, London:Palgrave

Objectives and Contextualisation

The purpose of this module is to introduce students with the history and institutional processes of the European Union, as well as to provide them with theoretical and methodological tools that are required for studying the

process of European Integration. The module is intended to help students successfully write a research paper and develop research skills for PhD applications.

The module overviews the different phases of European Integration, the modes of EU governance and the different conceptualizations applied to EU policy, politics and policies. The module is divided in a set of thematic lectures by professors from the UAB and visiting scholars from different European Universities.

Skills

- Applied theoretical knowledge acquired from the analysis of real situation and using political analysis generate useful orientations for decision-making.
- Demonstration reading comprehension for specialist texts in English.
- Recognise the complexity of politics today, its diversity and the tensions to which it is exposed, with special emphasis on the Spanish and European contexts.
- Understand the design, operation and consequences of the political institutions and their relation to processes of governance.
- Work in international and interdisciplinary teams whose members have different origins and backgrounds.

Learning outcomes

1. Analyse the most relevant European policies from the point of view of economic and social cohesion and sustainability
2. Apply the different theories on integration and European governance to specific cases.
3. Define theories of governance in the European Union and on Europisation
4. Demonstration reading comprehension for specialist texts in English.
5. Differentiate between the different agents operating in the European Union: their actions, interest and resources
6. Identify the role of political agents at different levels of government in the drawing up and implementation of European policies
7. Recognise the different regulatory, economic and social elements that are necessary for understanding European Union policy
8. Work in international and interdisciplinary teams whose members have different origins and backgrounds.

Content

The course is structured as follows:

1.European integration and EU institutional system

Introduction to the study of European integration

The historical process of European integration

The EU institutional system before and after the Lisbon Treaty

2.Theories of European integration

The EU as a political system: Federalism, neofunctionalism, intergovernmentalism, liberal intergovernmentalism, new institutionalism

Multilevel Governance in the EU: The academic debate and its effects in the European policy-making

3. Data sources in the study of the EU

Exploring the main data sources in the study of EU institutional processes

4. Policy-making

Policy-making in the EU: an analytical perspective (1): Agenda-setting, formulation, negotiation and decision

Policy-making in the EU: an analytical perspective (2): Implementation of EU policies

Legitimacy and democracy in the EU

5. Institutional Processes

Legislative - executive relationships

Delegation of executive power: comitology and specialized agencies

Subnational governments in the EU

6. Territorial policies

Policies for territorial cohesion: regional policy in the EU

Europeanization and EU policies with a strong territorial impact: theoretical approach and examples from urban, regional, environmental and transport policies

European policies for rural, mountain and peripheral areas

Cross-border, interregional and transnational cooperation in the EU

Cohesion and fracture at the external borders of the EU

European policies for the governance of coastal and marine areas

7. Other EU public policies

EU energy policy

EUclimatechange policy

Methodology

The methodology is based on the following learning activities:

- Activities in the classrroom directed by the faculty, during the scheduled time during the semester. These ativities can be theoretical or practical. Theoretical activities consist of presentations by professors followed by discussions. For proper development of the activity, prior reading of the literature and related materials is required. Practical ativities will consist of oral presentations and data collection exercises.

- Activities performed by students under the supervision of the professor. These activities mostly include the elaboration of papers.

- Autonomous activities performed by students, both individually and collectivelly. Students will organize their time and work. These activities include readings and study of bibligraphy, data search, preparation of oral presentations and preparation of evaluation ativities.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			

Lectures and seminars	63	2.52	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Type: Supervised			
Tutorials	50	2	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
Type: Autonomous			
Preparation of assigned readings	100	4	4
Preparation of course assignments	34.5	1.38	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Evaluation

The evaluation is based on active participation during the course and in-class presentations (20%), presentation and discussion of papers (30%), and a final assignment of 3,000 words (50%).

Students must choose a topic and submit a 3-page paper proposal by December. The paper proposal should include:

1. A clearly stated research question
2. An hypothesis or expected answer to the research question
3. A brief review of the theoretical debates on the topic
4. A short description of how to answer the research question

IMPORTANT: Attendance is compulsory (at least 80% of the sessions)

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Assignments	0,50	1.25	0.05	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Participation	0,20	0.5	0.02	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Tutorials	0,30	0.75	0.03	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Bibliography

General references:

Aspinwall, M. y G. Schneider (2000), 'Same menu, separate tables: The institutionalist turn in political science and the study of European integration', *European Journal of Political Research*, Vol. 38, pp. 1-36

Bomberg, E., J. Peterson and A. Stubb (eds) (2008), The European Union: How Does it Work?, Oxford University Press.

Cini, M. (ed) (2009), European Union Politics, Oxford University Press.

Dinan, D. (2010), 'Institutions and Governance: A New Treaty, a Newly Elected Parliament and a New Commission', Journal of Common Market Studies, Vol 48 Annual Review pp. 956-118.

Dinan, D. (2011) 'Governance and Institutions: Implementing the Lisbon Treaty in the Shadow of the Euro Crisis', *Journal of Common Market Studies*, Vol.49, Annual Review, pp.103-121.

Hix, S. And B. Hoyland (2012), The Politial System of the European Union, New York: Palgrave.

Kassim, H. et al. (2013) 'The European Commission of the 21st Century', OUP.

Moravcsik, A. (1998) The Choice for Europe: Social Purpose and State Power. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Van Middelaar, L. (2013) 'The Passage to Europe. How a Continent Became a Union', Yale Univ. Press.

Wallace, H., W. Wallace and M. Pollack (2005), Policy Making in the European Union, New York: Oxford University Press