

**European Integration: Theory and Political Process**

Code: 42453  
ECTS Credits: 10

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313335 Political Science	OT	0	2

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

## Contact

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## Use of Languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

## Teachers

Antoni Durà Guimerà  
Nuria Font Borrás  
Ixchel Perez Duran

## External teachers

Javier Arregui  
Matteo Berzi  
Nuria González Campana  
Xavier Ferrer

## Prerequisites

Students enrolled in this course are expected to have a Bachelors degree level in Political Science or in any other social science discipline. Basic knowledge on the process of European integration is also required.

## 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 other universities.

## Competences

- 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 europeanization.
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 calendar will be available on the first day of class. Students will find all information on the Virtual Campus: the description of the activities, teaching materials, and any necessary information for the proper follow-up of the subject. In case of a change of teaching modality for health reasons, teachers will make readjustments in the schedule and methodologies.

The course is divided into seven main sections:

I. European integration: An Introduction

The idea of Europe and the historical process of European polity building

II. Government and Governance in the EU

The EU institutional system before and after the Lisbon Treaty

Institutions and EU policy-making

III. Theories of European integration

Federalism, supranationalism, intergovernmentalism, liberal intergovernmentalism, new intergovernmentalism, multi-level governance

New institutionalism as an intermediate theory

IV. EU Policy-making

Policy-making in the EU (1)

Policy-making in the EU (2)

V. Democracy in the EU

Democracy and legitimacy (1)

Democracy and legitimacy (2)

VI. Themes and Perspectives

European Elections

Populism and Euroscepticism

Brexit

Migrations

Internal Secession (1)

Internal Secession (2)

VII. Multilevel governance  
Regional Policy  
Rural spaces: Common Agricultural Policy  
Urban policies  
European Territorial Cooperation  
Cross-Border Cooperation  
External Borders: Mediterranean

## Methodology

The methodology is based on the following learning activities:

- Activities in the classroom directed by the faculty, during the scheduled time during the semester. These activities 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 activities 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 collectively. Students will organize their time and work. These activities include readings and study of bibliography, data search, preparation of oral presentations and preparation of evaluation activities.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

## 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	90	3.6	4
Preparation of course assignments	34.5	1.38	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

## Assessment

The evaluation is based on three elements:

1. Individual assessment of compulsory readings (30%)
2. Exercise on the multi-level governance part (30%)
3. A final research assignment of 3,000 words (40%).

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

1. A clearly stated research question
2. A 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)

-Students will be entitled to the revaluation of the subject. They should present a minimum of activities that equals two-thirds of the total grading.

-The student who performs any irregularity (copy, plagiarism, identity theft...) will be qualified with 0 in this assignment or exam. In case there are several irregularities, the final grade of the subject will be 0.

### Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exercise on the multi-level governance part	0,30	5	0.2	1, 2, 3, 5, 6
Final research paper	0,40	5	0.2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Individual assessment on compulsory readings	0,30	2.5	0.1	3, 4, 6, 7

### Bibliography

At the beginning of the course a list with compulsory readings will be uploaded on the virtual campus.

Remedial readings:

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

Bulmer, S. et al. (2020) *Politics in the European Union*, Oxford University Press. Also available in Ebook.

Bulmer, S. and Lequesne, Ch. (eds) 2020, *The Member States of the European Union*, Oxford University Press, 3rd ed.

Cini, M. and Pérez-Solorzano, N. (eds) (2019), *European Union Politics*, Oxford University Press, 6th edition.

Dinan, D. (2014), *Origins and Evolution of the EU*, Oxford University Press, 2nd edition.

Dinan, D. (2010), *Ever closer union?: An introduction to European integration*, Palgrave Macmillan, 4th edition.

Hix, S. And B. Hoyland (2011), *The Political System of the European Union*, Palgrave Macmillan, 3rd ed.

Nugent, N. (2010), *The Government and Politics of the European Union*, Palgrave Macmillan.

### Software

N/A