



THE SUBJECT

European Integration

General information

Name of the course: European Integration

Academic year: 2010-2011

Year: 2nd

Term: 2nd

Degree / Course: Bachelor's Degree in International Business and Marketing

Code: 42201

Number of credits: 4 ECTS

Total number of hours committed: 100

Teaching language: English

Lecturer: Dr. Joan Pere Plaza i Font

Timetable:

GROUP 1:

Mondays 18:15 to 19:15

Tuesdays 16:15 to 17:15

Fridays

14:35 to 15:30

15:35 to 16:30

16:35 to 17:30

GROUP 2:

Mondays 16:15 to 17:15

Tuesdays 18:15 to 19:15

Fridays

18:05 to 19:00

19:05 to 20:00

20:05 to 21:00

1. Presentation of the course

European Integration is an obligatory subject situated in the second trimester of the second year of the International Business and Marketing Degree. The course of study aims to present a general overview of the political system of the European Union.

Almost 60 years after the signature of the first founding Treaty, in Paris in 1952, the European Union nowadays constitutes one of the most important actors within the International arena, both economically and politically. Nevertheless, it has not followed a linear evolution and the current European Union is the result of a complex historical process featured by many critical events that will be considered along the trimester.

As a consequence, **European Integration's** primary goal is to provide students with those conceptual and analytical tools to understand the role of the European Union as a key economic and political actor in the 21st Century.

In so doing **European Integration** will focus on both the institutional structure of the European Union and also on the policy dynamics, taking into account their internal and external dimensions and constraints.

European Integration demands therefore considerable reading and comprehension prior to the lecture classes, and also a student's quite open-minded attitude towards this field of knowledge, and empirical context, that undoubtedly lies at the core of the general skills required to any graduate in International Business and Marketing.

2. Competences to be achieved in the course

I. GENERAL COMPETENCES

1. INSTRUMENTAL COMPETENCES

- G.I.1. Ability to search, analyse, assess and summarise information.
- G.I.2. Ability to relate concepts and knowledge from different areas.
- G.I.6. Ability to develop, present and defend arguments.

2. GENERIC PERSONAL COMPETENCES

- G.P.4. Critical attitude.

3. GENERIC SYSTEMATIC COMPETENCES

- G.S.3. Ability to think globally.
- G.S.5. Ability to learn on one's own.

4. COMPETENCES FOR APPLICABILITY

- G.A.1. Ability to apply acquired knowledge and skills.
- G.A.3. Ability to search and exploit new information sources.
- G.A.4. Ability to understand and apply the network concept.

II. SPECIFIC COMPETENCES

1. DISCIPLINARY COMPETENCES

- E.D.1. Facilitate understanding of the determinants and consequences of international trade and of international financial transactions.
- E.D.3. Understand and recognise the geopolitical, social and cultural dimension of a wide range of economic activities.
- E.D.4. Provide an economic and political perspective of different areas in the world and facilitate a critical comprehension of their current processes.
- E.D.5. Identify the economic, cultural, political, legal, democratic and technological environments that may represent opportunities and threats for the development of business at a worldwide level.

2. PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCES

- E.P.3. Ability to assess the changes that occur due to various international agreements and their effects on the economic relations of different countries and the companies' activities.
- E.P.4. Ability to relate and analyse current and historical economic events with knowledge about the economy.
- E.P.6. Ability to understand and use the principal legal systems governing trade relations with EU countries.
- E.P.12. Ability to critically evaluate local information contexts, knowledge or principles of a more global nature.
- E.P.21. Ability to search and use various information sources.
- E.P.22. Ability to contrast knowledge obtained in the learning process and adapt it to real situations.
- E.P.23. Ability to apply and expand upon abstract reasoning.
- E.P.24. Develop the ability to synthesise.

NOTE: The above competences interrelate with the basic competences set out in Royal Decree 1993/2007.

3. Contents

In pursue of the goals mentioned above, the course develops the following structure, based on three different Parts.

Unit 0. The Idea of Europe

Part 1. Historical Overview of the European Integration Process

Unit 1. The post-war context and the first Communities (1945-1957)

Unit 2. From the Communities to the European Union (1958-1992)

Unit 3. Challenges of an enlarging European Union (1993-2010)

Unit 4. Theories and conceptual approaches on the European Integration Process

Part 2. Polity and Politics in the European Union

Unit 5. The Commission

Unit 6. The Council of the European Union

Unit 7. The European Parliament

Unit 8. The EU Budgetary Cycle

Part 3. The European Union Policies

Unit 9. The Single Market

Unit 10. The EU Competition Policy

Unit 11. The Common Agriculture Policy

Unit 12. The EU Cohesion and Structural Policy

Unit 13. The European Trade Policy

Unit 14. The External Relations of the European Union

4. Assessment

Ordinary assessment

The ordinary assessment will be based on the principle of *Continuous Participation*. Students will therefore pass **European Integration** by successfully completing the requirements for *Continuous Assessment*. No overall grade under 50% (i.e, 5,0 points out of 10,0) will pass the Overall Assessment. Students are also expected to get, at least, a 50% in each of the following elements to pass the Overall Assessment:

- Student's active participation at both Lecture and Seminar sessions
- The submission of brief papers on the topic of the Seminar session
- A final exam

The partial requirements for each of those elements will consist on the following criteria:

Students' active participation

25% of the final grade will be based on the student's active participation during sessions. In particular, at the Seminar sessions. The mere (completely passive) attendance to the Sessions will only grant a 5% of the final grade.

Submission of short papers

Will represent a 35% of the final grade. It will consist of writing short papers (no more than 800 words) on the topic of the Seminars sessions. They will be handed at the beginning of each session.

The content may include a brief summary of the Session materials, as well as some personal reflections that may pave the way to the debates during the Seminar sessions.

Students will present ONLY seven papers (7). The Seminar sessions where Students will present their papers is up to Students' own choice, according to their own interests and scheduling.

Final exam

Will be 40% of the final grade. No mid-term exam is planned. The format of the final exam will be explained in advance by the lecturer. Potential content will be restricted to the topics considered all along the sessions, as well as the content of the Seminar sessions.

The date for this exam will be date be set by the ESCI Academic Administration.

Assessment Description	Time Period	Type of Assessment		Assessment agent			Type of Activity	Grouping		Weight
		Comp.	Opt.	Lecturer	Self-Assess.	Co-assesses.		Indivi.	Group	
Students' attendance at Lecture Sessions and Seminars	Week 1-10	X		X				X		5%
Students' active/critic participation at Seminar sessions	Week 1-10	X		X				X		20%
Papers Submission	Week 1-10	X		X				X		35%
Final Exam	Exam week	X		X				X		40%

Extraordinary Assessment

For those students either failing or not adhering to the ordinary assessment, an extraordinary assessment is provided.

No overall grade under 50% (i.e. 5,0 points out of 10,0) will pass the Extraordinary Assessment.

Students are also expected to get, at least, a 50% in each of the following elements to pass the overall Extraordinary Assessment:

- The submission of brief papers on the topic of the Seminar session
- A final exam

The partial requirements for each of those elements will consist of the following criteria:

Submission of short papers

Will represent a 30% of the final grade. It will consist of writing short papers (no more than 1000 words) on the topic of the Seminars sessions. They will be handed at the final exam date.

The content may include a brief summary of the Session materials, as well as some personal reflections.

Students will present ten papers (10), one per each Seminar sessions topic.

Those students having already submitted the papers during the ordinary assessment are free from presenting those papers again. The grade obtained in the ordinary assessment will be kept.

Final exam

Will be 70% of the final grade. The format of the final exam will be explained in advance by the lecturer. Potential content will be restricted to the topics considered all along the sessions, as well as the content of the Seminar sessions.

The date for this exam will be date be set by the ESCI Academic Administration.

5. Bibliography and teaching resources

For guidance only, Students may find below a non-exhaustive listing of general bibliography references on European Studies:

ARTIS, M. and F. NIXSON (Eds.) (2007). *The Economics of the European Union* (4th ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

BACHE, I. and S. GEORGE (2006). *Politics in the European Union*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

BALDWIN, R. and C. WYPLOSZ (2006). *The Economics of European Integration*. Maidenhead: McGraw-Hill.

CINI, M. (2003). *European Union Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

CINI, M. and A.K. BOURNE (Eds.) (2006). *The European Union Studies*. Basingstoke (UK): Palgrave-Macmillan.

DINAN, D. (Ed.) (2006). *Origins and Evolution of the European Union*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

EL AGRAA, A. M. (Ed.) (2007). *The European Union: Economics and Policies* (8 ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

HITRIS, T. (2003). *European Union Economics* (5 ed.). Harlow: FT/Prentice Hall.

HIX, S. (2005). *The Political System of the European Union* (2nd ed.). London: Macmillan.

JORGENSEN, K. E., M. A. POLLACK and B. ROSAMOND (Eds.) (2006). *Handbook of the European Union Politics*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Pub.

NEAL, L. (2007). *The Economics of Europe and the European Union*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

NELLO, S. (2005). *The European Union: Economics, Policies and History*. Maidenhead: McGraw-Hill.

WALLACE, H., W. WALLACE and M.A. POLLACK. (2005) *Policy-Making in the European Union* (5th ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Students may also take into account that the Official website of the European Union (http://europa.eu/index_en.htm) is a rich source of information. Moreover, this page has a large number of interesting links to the specific websites of the different Institutions and actors.

6. Methodology

Lecture Sessions

In accordance with the programming established in the scheduling section of this course plan, students must use the schedule as a study guide. Information is clearly given for study to be performed in order to complement the lectures content.

Further reading might always be provided after Students' demands.

Seminar Classes

A series of programmed activities and materials for each Seminar session will be provided in advance. The list of obligatory readings will be provided to Students at the first Session, on 10th January 2010.

Both compulsory readings and additional material to prepare Seminar Sessions (as well as any further material that could be of interest for Students) will be timely uploaded to Aul@-ESCI.

The preparation of discussion topics, must be resolved by informal groupings. Nevertheless, papers will be handed in on an individual basis.

Tutorships

Surgery hours are scheduled on Tuesdays from 19:15 to 20:15.

However, alternative scheduling can be set with the lecturer individually.

7. Scheduling Activities

Lecture Sessions

Week	Date	Contents	Activity outside the classroom	In-class hours	Out-of-class study hours
Week I	10 th January, Mon.	Unit 1	Students are expected to digest the selected readings and compile their own notes in the light of Lecture contents as well as the selected readings themselves. Units sequence is based in a cumulative-design. Later Units cannot be adequately followed without a full comprehension of the formers. In addition no further source of information can be disdained. For instance, it will be important for Students to check the constant up-to-dates in the EU official websites, as well as to read press daily in search of any piece of news that could complement Lecture contents.	60 min.	90 min.
	11 ^h . January, Tue.	Unit 2		60 min.	90 min.
Week II	17 th January, Mon.	Unit 3		60 min.	90 min.
	18 th January, Tue.	Unit 4		60 min.	90 min.
Week III	24 th January, Mon.	Unit 5		60 min.	90 min.
	25 th January, Tue.	Unit 6		60 min.	90 min.
Week IV	31 th January, Mon.	Unit 7		60 min.	90 min.
	1 st February, Tue.	Unit 8		60 min.	90 min.
Week V	7 th February, Mon.	Unit 9 (i)		60 min.	90 min.
	8 th . February, Tue.	Unit 9 (ii)		60 min.	90 min.
Week VI	14 th February, Mon.	Unit 10 (i)	60 min.	90 min.	
	15 th February, Tue.	Unit 10 (ii)	60 min.	90 min.	
Week VII	21 st February, Mon.	Unit 11 (i)	60 min.	90 min.	
	22 nd February, Tue.	Unit 11 (ii)	60 min.	90 min.	
Week VIII	28 th February, Mon.	Unit 13 (i)	60 min.	90 min.	
	1 st March, Tue.	Unit 13 (ii)	60 min.	90 min.	
Week IX	9 th March, Tue.	Unit 12	60 min.	180 min.	
Week X	14 th March, Mon.	Unit 14 (i)	60 min.	90 min.	
	15 th March, Tue.	Unit 14 (ii)	60 min.	90 min.	
Exam Week		Units 0-15	0 min.	900 min.	
TOTAL				1140 min. (19 hours)	2700 min. (45 hours)

Seminar Sessions

Week	Date	Contents	Activity outside the classroom	In-class hours	Out-of-class study hours
Week I	14 th January, Fri.	Unit 0	Seminar Materials will be provided in advanced. Those materials will be subject to in-depth debates during the Seminar Sessions. Students are expected to actively participate on them. Critical approaches will be welcomed. Short personal presentations (5-10 min) would be eventually required in advanced.	55 min.	150 min.
Week II	21 st January, Fri.	Units 1-2-3		55 min.	150 min.
Week III	28 th January, Fri.	Unit 4		55 min.	150 min.
Week IV	4 th February, Fri.	Units 5-6-7-8		55 min.	150 min.
Week V	11 th February, Fri.	Units 9		55 min.	150 min.
Week VI	18 th February, Fri.	Unit 10		55 min.	150 min.
Week VII	25 th February, Fri.	Unit 11		55 min.	150 min.
Week VIII	4 th March, Fri.	Unit 13		55 min.	150 min.
Week IX	11 th March, Fri.	Unit 12		55 min.	150 min.
Week X	18 th March, Fri.	Unit 14		55 min.	150 min.
TOTAL				550 min. (9 hours ca.)	1500 min. (25 hours)

NOTE:

The final exam will take two hours long (120 min.). This additional time must to be computed when calculating the overall Scheduling Activities for ***European Integration***.