ASIGNATURA  
**SISTEMA DE LA UE**

**CRÉDITOS ECTS:** 6,00  
**CODIGO DE LA ASIGNATURA:** ISISTUE  
**IDIOMA EN QUE SE IMPARTE:** Inglés

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**PRERREQUISITOS**  
None

**CONOCIMIENTOS PREVIOS**  
None

**ASIGNATURAS QUE SE HAN DE CURSAR SIMULTÁNEAMENTE**  
None

**DESCRIPCIÓN DE LA ASIGNATURA**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an insight into the functioning of the European Union. The European Union is a unique model of international cooperation between states and a key global player. As such, the EU is a natural object of study within the international relations degree at the Blanquerna. EU’s policies have a direct impact on public and private stakeholders and ultimately EU citizens; their effects are also felt beyond the boundaries of the EU itself. These policies result from a complex institutional and decision-making system that students will be familiarized with throughout this class. Understanding better the key parameters of the EU also helps understanding some of the key challenges that the EU has faced over the last years. In order to understand all these dimensions, the course will be at the crossroad of various approaches, i.e institutional, historical, theoretical and political. The program of the core class is structured around three main blocs: 1/Deepening and enlarging, history and main concepts; 2/EU institutions and decision-making and 3/policies and challenges. Two learning units will look closer into two important policy areas: EU energy policy and EU migration policies.

**COMPETENCIAS**

1. Understand who the main actors are and how they interact, vertically (EU institutions, Member states, regions, citizens and other actors) and horizontally (various EU institutions)
2. Understand the historical dynamics of European integration and the related theoretical approaches
3. Learn about key policy areas
4. Identify the main challenges the EU is facing
5. Understand how the EU works in practice through case studies, discussions on topical developments and exchange with practitioners

Other competences to be pursued in the scope of this course are:

1. Ability to apply the International Relations theories and methodologies.
2. Strengthen the research skills and the ability to organize documentation and information
3. Ability for argumentation and speech
4. Ability to analyse critically the international relations trends

**CONTENIDOS**

**Core group**

I-Deepening and enlarging, history of the EU and main principles

- How it started
- Deepening of the EU with successive treaties
○ The Treaty cycle (negotiation, adoption, ratification…)
○ Symbols and principles of the EU
○ Introduction to key concepts such as free movement, European citizenship and multi-speed Europe
○ Enlargement: history and how it works

II-EU institutions and decision-making
○ EU institutions (focus on the European Commission, European Parliament, Council and European Council)
○ Competences and subsidiarity
○ Legal acts and legislative processes
○ Budget

III-EU policies and challenges
○ Focus on two “traditional” EU policies: internal market and competition
○ Focus on two budget-intensive policies: agriculture and cohesion
○ External policies: the emergence of the European External Action Service and the Common Foreign and Security Policy; the role of the European Commission in managing other external policies (including Trade, Development and Humanitarian Assistance)

Conclusion: Main challenges in the EU

Learning Unit 1 (LU1): EU Energy Policy. Prof.: Ferran Tarradellas
2. a-The internal energy market. Evolution, challenges and opportunities.
   b-Conventional energies: oil, coal, gas and nuclear. Strategic Energy Technology Plan.
3. The Emissions Trading Scheme and the fight against climate change
4. Renewable energies and energy efficiency.
5. International relations of energy
6. Exam

Learning Unit 2 (LU2): Migration policies in the EU. Prof.: Anna Terrón
1. Free movement of persons in the EU.
2. The area of Freedom, Security and Justice.
3. EU migration and asylum policies.
4. External dimension of EU migration policy.

METODOLOGÍA

1. Lectures
2. Individual and group practices: text readings, research, contacts with EU practitioners, presentations and debates, discussions on topical developments, case-studies
3. Exam

EVALUACIÓN

The overall grade for this course is based on coursework completed during the core-group (60%) and learning units (20% each LU) sessions.

More specifically:
- The evaluation criteria for the core-group classes will be as follows
  - A final exam on the contents of the program (40%)
  - Oral presentation (30%)
  - Continuous assessment, participation in class and practical exercises (30%)
- The evaluation criteria for the LU1 class will be as follows:
  - Final exam (60%)
  - Paper (30%)
  - Active participation in the sessions (10%)
- The evaluation criteria for the LU2 class will be as follows:
  - Activities (85%)
  - Active participation in the sessions (15%)
VERY IMPORTANT: Students must pass all the different parts of the course, i.e. core-group and the learning unit. The student will be entitled to retake the failed part in the second sitting, but not the one in which he or she was “no-show” in the first sitting. If one block of the subject is not retaken, or the student was “no-show”, he or she will fail the whole course and will have to repeat it.

CRITERIOS DE EVALUACIÓN DE RESULTADOS

The following criteria will be considered to determine the fulfilment of each evaluation item:

- Good understanding and use of key concepts.
- Ability to connect the course’s key concepts between each other and with broader issues of international relations.
- Ability to present one’s own ideas on the basis of the guidelines given, both orally and in written.
- Active participation in class (including practical exercises) and fulfilment of deadlines.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA BÁSICA

Targeted readings will be given for each session. They will include web sources, e.g. institutional websites.

Core-Group:

LU1: EU Energy Policy
4. OECD, World Energy Outlook, 2015

LU2: Migration policies in the EU

BIBLIOGRAFÍA COMPLEMENTARIA

1. O. Costa, N. Brack, How the European Union really works, Farnham, Ashgate, May 2014 (hardback) / September 2014 (paperback)

PREPARADO POR: Emmanuel Philippe Cohen Hadria • Anna Terrón Cusi • Ferran Tarradellas Espuny

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