



EC/PO 246 EUROPEAN UNION POLICIES IN PRACTICE

IES Abroad Freiburg
European Union Program Syllabus

SEMESTER: Spring/Fall

DESCRIPTION: In this course we will address the question: ‘how do EU policies work in practice?’ Who are the main actors, what are the main processes, dynamics, and explanations for what the European Union does? This course will cover the most important EU policy fields and discuss how they have been put into practice. What the EU does has expanded enormously since its origins in the 1950s. Originally narrowly concerned with establishing a common market, its policy remit has expanded to cover agricultural, monetary, social, immigration, energy, foreign, and security policy. But why do policies emerge looking as they do? Our main goal will be to address these questions in an interactive and comprehensible way. You will gain an understanding of both successful and challenging aspects of EU policy, and the dynamic behind EU and EU Member State competences (exclusive, shared and supported) for policy making and implementation.

CREDITS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 45 (including course-related trips, for detailed explanation see below)

INSTRUCTOR:

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

ADDITIONAL COST: None

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Seminar lectures and discussions, presentations, groups projects.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Class participation and group projects- 15%
- Essays - 25%
- Midterm exam - 30%
- Final exam - 30%

Course Participation and Seminar Discussions

Two group projects and Seminar discussions are based upon the required readings and teaching introductions to the subject given at each session by the instructor. All students are expected to come to class having completed the required readings and join the seminar discussions with prepared questions. Required readings will be made available on Moodle. Students are required to participate actively in the group work and to give brief group presentations.

A	Excellent participation The student’s contributions reflect an active reading of the assigned bibliography. Skillfully synthesizes the main ideas of the readings and raises questions about the applications and implications of the material. Demonstrates, through questions and comments, that he or she has been capable of relating the main ideas in the readings to the other information discussed in the course, and with his or her own life experience. The student makes informed judgments about the readings and other ideas discussed in class, providing evidence and reasons. He/she
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	respectfully states his/her reactions about other classmates' opinions and is capable of contributing to the inquiry spiral with other questions. The student gets fully involved in the completion of the class activities.
B	Very good participation The student's contributions show that the assigned materials are usually read. Most of the time the main ideas are identified, even though sometimes it seems that applications and implications of the information read were not properly reflected upon. The student is able to construct over others' contributions, but sometimes seems to interrupt the shared construction to go over tangents. He/she is respectful of others' ideas. Regularly involved in the activities but occasionally loses concentration or energy.
C	Regular participation The participant evidences a regular reading of the bibliography, but in a superficial way. He/she tries to construct over others' ideas, but commonly provides comments that indicate lack of preparation about the material. Frequently, contributions are shallow or unarticulated with the discussion in hand.
F	Insufficient participation Consistently, the participant reads in a shallow way or does not read at all. Does not participate in an informed way and shows lack of interest in constructing over others' ideas.

Essays

Two short essays (3-4 pages each). These will be written on session-related topics (a list of questions will be provided for each short essay). The short essays will serve as a basis for seminar discussions and group work. Submit the essays via Moodle before the start of the respective session indicated in the syllabus.

Midterm Exam

The mid-term consists of multiple-choice questions covering the material of the first eight sessions (to ensure that the basics of EU's policies in practice have been understood), and three essay questions. A study guide will be provided beforehand.

Final Exam

The final exam (session 19) covers material from all sessions. Whereas the midterm exam serves to ensure that you had an understanding of the basics of the policies and policy-processes presented mid-way through the course, the final exam will permit you to demonstrate your ability to describe, analyze, critique and justify your recommendations on policy areas presented in this course. It will consist of multiple-choice questions and three essay questions. A study guide will be provided beforehand.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Distinguish the diverse policy fields of the EU;
- Understand why certain policy fields are significantly more developed than others;
- Critically assess the success and drawbacks of European integration;
- Understand how EU policy is put into practice.
- Understand, discuss and debate pros, cons and challenges to implementing EU policy.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

All IES courses require attendance and participation. Attendance is mandatory per IES Abroad policy. Any unexcused absence will incur a penalty on your final course grade (1 absence - 1%, 2nd absence -2%, 3rd absence – 3%). Any student who has more than three (3) unexcused absences will receive an "F" as the final grade in the course. Any student who misses more than 25% of a course, whether the absences are excused or are unexcused, will receive an

“F” as the final grade in the course. Absences due to sickness, religious observances, and family emergencies may be excusable at the discretion of the Center Director. In the case of an excused absence, it is the student’s responsibility to inform the Academic Dean of the absence with an Official Excused Absence Form, as well as any other relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor’s note), and to keep a record thereof. The absence form must be turned in as soon as possible before the class, in the case of a planned absence, or immediately upon return to the Center, in the case of an unplanned absence, in order for the absence to be considered excused. It is also the student’s responsibility to inform the professor of the missed class. Students can collect and submit the Official Excused Absence Form from the office of the Academic Dean.

TESTS, QUIZZES, OR PRESENTATIONS MISSED DURING UNEXCUSED ABSENCES CANNOT BE MADE UP!

ASSIGNMENTS NOT HANDED IN ON THE DUE DATE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A 3% PENALTY PER DAY POST-DUE DATE (with the exception of students who have an excused absence).

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments
Session 1	<p>The EU policies in practice: The policy portfolio and the policy cycle</p> <p>Policy-making in the EU is very complex. After a brief overview of the EU’s policy portfolio and the varying extents of EU policy we will analyze the different stages of the EU’s policy cycles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buonanno, L. and N. Nugent (2013) <i>Policies and Policy Processes of the European Union</i>. Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 5-22. • ‘How the European Union Works’ pp. 3-29 (skim)
Session 2	<p>The budget: Who gets what, when, and how?</p> <p>Budget bargaining is a highly contentious affair because behind each revenue source a tug-of-war is going on between ‘contributors’ and ‘receivers’ and between integrationists and intergovernmentalists.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buonanno, L. and N. Nugent (2013) <i>Policies and Policy Processes of the European Union</i>. Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 296-318. • Myths and Facts of the EU Budget, EU Commission
Session 3	<p>The single market in Europe</p> <p>The single European market program marks a turning point in European integration. Although the task of completing the single market remains unfinished, it has moved to the center of European integration and fundamentally transformed state-market relations in Europe. Discussion on the role of the European Court of Justice in promoting and protecting the Internal/Single Market.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young, A. (2015) ‘The Single Market: From Stagnation to Renewal?’ in Helen Wallace, Mark A. Pollack, and A. R. Young (eds.) <i>Policy-Making in the European Union</i>, 7th edition. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 115-140. • European Commission (2010) ‘Free Movement of Goods: Guide to the Application of Treaty Provisions Governing the Free Movement of Goods’ pp.8-21, 26-30.

Session 4	<p>EU competition policy</p> <p>European competition policy attempts to control restrictive practices, abuse of dominant position, mergers, state aid, and the liberalization of utilities. Due the scale of the workload and the rapid growth of national competition authorities, the Commission has responded with a bold strategy to decentralize the implementation of competition rules within the EU.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilks, S. (2015) 'Competition Policy: Defending the Economic Constitution' in Helen Wallace, Mark A. Pollack, and Alasdair R. Young (eds.) <i>Policy-Making in the European Union</i>, pp. 141-165. • Damro, C. (2016) 'Development of European Competition Policy' in Chad Damro and Terrence Guay (eds.) <i>European Competition Policy and Globalization</i>, pp. 16-30 (skim)
Session 5	<p>The EU as a regulatory state</p> <p>The success of the single market program has been such that many authors see it as a defining feature of the EU. In fact, regulation is so central to the EU's functioning that it can usefully be considered a 'regulatory state'. A regulatory state attaches greater importance to the process of regulation than to other forms of policy-making.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelemen, R. D. and Majone, G. (2012) 'Managing Europeanization: the European Agencies' in John Peterson and Michael Shackleton (eds.) <i>The Institutions of the European Union</i>, 3rd edition. Oxford University Press, pp. 219-240.
<p>Experiencing Europe: European Parliament Course-Related Trip, Destination: Strasbourg, France (1 day)</p>		
Session 6	<p>The EU as an international trade actor</p> <p>It is with its trade policy that the EU most resembles a state actor in external affairs, exercising an exclusive competence to negotiate accords on behalf of all EU member states in most areas of external trade. This requirement coupled with the very considerable volume of external EU trade, makes the EU an extremely important international trade actor.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woolcock (2015) 'Trade Policy: Policy-Making after the Treaty of Lisbon' in Helen Wallace, Mark A. Pollack, and Alasdair R. Young (eds.) <i>Policy-Making in the European Union</i>, pp. 388-406. • The European Union and Its Trade Partners, The European Parliament Publication (2016)
<p>Experiencing Europe: EU Institutions Course Related Trip, Destinations: Brussels, Belgium, and Paris, France (7 days)</p>		

Session 7	Economic and monetary union Economic and monetary union (EMU) provides the EU with a major role in macroeconomic policy-making. The members of the euro area have exchanged national currencies for the euro and delegated responsibility for monetary policy to the European Central Bank (ECB). Member states have also agreed to coordinate their budgetary policies and structural reform. The effects of the financial crisis and turmoil in the real economy provide the toughest test to date of EMU's system of monetary and economic policy-making. A short discussion on the arrangements between the Troika and Greece.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> De Grauwe, P. (2013) <i>Design Failures in the Eurozone: Can they be fixed?</i> (LEQS Paper No. 57). London: LSE.
Session 8	Building a socio-economic union? Non-discrimination and Free Movement of Labor The dynamics of market integration have spilled over into the EU social arena. However, under the pressures from integrated markets member governments have lost more control over national welfare policies than the EU has gained in transferred authority. Discussion on the Brexit and limitation of freedom of movement of EU citizens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> de Witte F. (2015) 'The Architecture of a Social Market Economy' LSE Law, Society and Economy Working Papers 13/2015 (skim) P.Craig and G. de Burca, 'Free Movement of Workers' in <i>EU Law: Text, Cases, and Materials</i> (6th Ed)
Session 9	Mid-term Exam	
Session 10	Cohesion policy Over the past years expenditure on the structural funds grew steadily. Since 1985 the structural funds have been specifically linked to the promotion of economic and social cohesion. Over time, cohesion policy has been progressively associated with a growing number of broader EU objectives, such as economic growth, competitiveness, employment, sustainable development, regionalism, and good governance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bache, I. (2015) 'Cohesion Policy: A new Direction for New Times?' in Helen Wallace, Mark A. Pollack, and Alasdair R. Young (eds.) <i>Policy-Making in the European Union</i>, pp. 243-262. The European Commission, 'Cohesion Policy Frequently Asked Questions'

Session 11	<p>Constructing an area of freedom, security and justice in Europe</p> <p>The area of freedom, security and justice (AFSJ) has been a rapidly expanding aspect of EU policy activity since the mid-1990s covering a wide range of policies. Among particular policy matters falling under AFSJ are immigration, asylum, visas, citizenship rights, and the combating of terrorism and of organized crime.</p> <p>Discussion on freedom to move and live in the EU.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lavenex, S. (2015) 'Justice and Home Affairs: Institutional Change and Policy Continuity', in H. Wallace, M. Pollack, and A. Young (eds.) <i>Policy-Making in the European Union</i>, pp. 367-387. • European Commission 'Freedom to Move and Live in Europe: A Guide to Your Rights as an EU Citizen' (excerpts)
<p style="text-align: center;">Experiencing Europe: EU Funds in the Region, Destination: Black Forest, Germany– 1 day</p>		
Session 12	<p>European Energy Policy</p> <p>European Energy Security is one of the most controversial and debated topics in the EU. The session focuses on the liberalization packages and energy reforms on EU level. The possibility of an energy union is also discussed along with the main challenges that EU member states are facing as regards energy security.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buchan, D. (2015) 'Energy Policy: Sharp Challenges and Rising Ambition' in Helen Wallace, Mark A. Pollack, and Alasdair R. Young (eds.) <i>Policy-Making in the European Union</i>, pp. 344-366.
Session 13	<p>Group project: Designing a European Energy Security Strategy for the 21st century</p> <p>Group work: the geopolitics of energy security</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topical readings and resources will be posted on Moodle
Session 14	<p>Enlargement of the European Union</p> <p>The European Union has expanded many times, and its widening continues. Enlargement demonstrates the success of the European model of integration, but poses fundamental questions. It has implications both for how the EU works (its structure and institutions) and for what it does (policies). Discussion on the potential enlargement in the Western Balkans and Ukraine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sedelmeier, U. (2015) 'Enlargement: Constituent Policy and Tool for External Governance' in Helen Wallace, Mark A. Pollack, and Alasdair R. Young (eds.) <i>Policy-Making in the European Union</i>, pp. 407-435.
Session 15	<p>European security and defense policy</p> <p>The common foreign and security policy (CFSP) seeks to combine the political weight of twenty-eight EU member states in the pursuit of common goals. But 'European foreign policy' must integrate a wide range of other policies to be effective.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howorth, J. (2011) 'The EU's Security and Defence Policy: Towards a Strategic Approach', in <i>International Relations and the European Union</i>, pp. 197-225.

	Likewise, any assessment of the EU's role in global affairs must consider CFSP as one policy area within a broader external relations toolkit. Despite high ambitions and a significant degree of institutionalization, the record so far is rather mixed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'A Stronger CSDP: Deepening Defence Cooperation' Clingendael Report (January 2016)
<p style="text-align: center; color: green;">Experiencing Europe: EU Member States Course Related Trip</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: green;">Destinations: 2 countries (see selection in description below) – 7 days</p>		
Session 16	EU development policy The EU and its member states spend around 50 billion EUR annually on development aid, or over half of the global total. The EU's aid policy, however, has faced serious challenges in recent years. Evidence that EU aid programs are not very effectively managed has contributed to 'donor fatigue'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbone, M. (2011) 'The EU and the developing world: partnership, poverty, politicisation' in Christopher Hill and Michael Smith (eds.) <i>International Relations and the European Union</i>, 2nd edition. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 324-348.
Session 17	Seminar discussion: Is the EU a soft, small, normative or civilian power? The EU developed as a self-consciously 'civilian' power, with European security provided through NATO under US leadership. Yet, there is still little agreement on what a common foreign policy should be about. Examination and analysis of 12 aspects of the EU covered in the course and an opportunity for reflection on the present and future status of the Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fontaine, P. (2014) 'The European Union Explained: Europe in 12 Lessons' European Commission, pp. 3-38.
Session 18	Discussion round: taking stock of EU policies in practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archick, K. (2015) 'The European Union: Questions and Answers' Congressional Research Service, pp.1-15.
Session 19	Final Exam (tba)	

COURSE RELATED TRIPS:

- Franco-German History Trip: Alsace, France– 1 day

During the first course related trip you will visit two significant historical and cultural landmarks in Franco-German history. You will have guided tours and learn about how age-old controversies and catastrophes in the heartland of Europe are represented, the role of memorials in constructing a European identity, and the challenges of overcoming centuries of conflict and rivalry.

- Germany in Europe: Then and Now Trip: Berlin, Germany – 5 days

During the course-related trip to Berlin, you will continue to learn about the past and present of German culture, economy and politics of Germany. Historically this capital is a crucial place if one wants to understand the importance German politics has for the dynamics of European integration. In Berlin you will learn about the fall of the Berlin Wall, the reunification of Europe after the end of the Cold War, the challenges that emerged during the process of post-communist transition and about Germany's hegemonic position within the EU.

- EU Parliament Trip: Strasbourg, France – 1 day

During this one-day trip, which is thematically linked to the EU Institutions trip you will visit the European Parliament in session in Strasbourg, France. There you will attend the parliamentary session and meet a Member of European Parliament who will discuss current events and elaborate on the workings of the European Parliament.

- EU Institutions Trip: Brussels, Belgium and Paris, France – 7 days

This course related trip will take you first to Brussels, the EU's institutional power center. In Brussels you will have the opportunity to meet with not only EU officials but also representatives of national delegations to the EU, think tanks and NGOs, as well as academic experts. The EU institutions you will visit include the European Commission, the Council of the EU and the European Council and you will have a chance to discuss with those actors who draft, shape and finally take decisions in the European Union. You will continue to have first-hand experience of the EU by visiting various agencies, institutions, and museums in Paris, you will meet French academic experts to discuss French culture, economy, politics and society.

- EU Funds in the Region Trip: South Baden, Germany– 1 day

This day trip will start with a meeting where an expert from the region will introduce you to EU's agricultural and structural funds and their implementation with examples from the region. Following the meeting you will visit a family farm that is typical for South Baden.

- EU Member States Trip - 7 days

Students choose 1 out of the three following course related trip options, e.g.:

- 1) Stockholm, Sweden; Warsaw, Poland/Prague, Czechia
- 2) Rome, Italy; Budapest, Hungary
- 3) Athens, Greece; Sofia, Bulgaria/Bucharest, Romania

The destinations may vary according to the topicality and nature of challenges of the EU and its integration process. The member states of the EU are still characterized by different state structures, economic ideologies, and cultural identities. This last course-related trip gives you the opportunity to choose between three different trip options. On these trips, you will learn about the current challenges of European integration. Experiencing the particularities and cultural diversity of these societies is essential in order to understand the variation in terms of domestic debates and national preferences when it comes to such important issues like, for instance, immigration, macroeconomic integration as well as European security.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Archick, K. (2015) 'The European Union: Questions and Answers' Congressional Research Service

Buonanno, L. and N. Nugent (2013) Policies and Policy Processes of the European Union. Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Damro, C. (2016) 'Development of European Competition Policy' in Chad Damro and Terrence Guay (eds.) European Competition Policy and Globalization.

De Grauwe, P. (2013) Design Failures in the Eurozone: Can they be fixed? (LEQS Paper No. 57).

de Witte F. (2015) 'The Architecture of a Social Market Economy' LSE Law, Society and Economy Working Papers 13/2015.

European Commission (2010) 'Free Movement of Goods: Guide to the Application of Treaty Provisions Governing the Free Movement of Goods'.

European Commission (2010) 'Freedom to Move and Live in Europe: A Guide to Your Rights as an EU Citizen'.

Fontaine, P. (2014) 'The European Union Explained: Europe in 12 Lessons' European Commission.

Hill, C. and M. Smith (eds.) International Relations and the European Union, 2nd edition. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.

Kagan, R. (2002) 'Power and Weakness', Policy Review 113.

Peterson, J. and M. Shackleton (eds.) The Institutions of the European Union, 3rd edition. Oxford University Press.

Wallace, H., M.A. Pollack, and A.R. Young (eds.) Policy-Making in the European Union, 7th edition. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

Alter, K. J. (2001) Establishing the Supremacy of European Law: The Making of an International Rule of Law in Europe. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.

Biscop, S. (2005) The European Security Strategy: A Global Agenda for Positive Power. Aldershot and Burlington, VT: Ashgate.

Chang, M. (2009) Monetary Integration in the European Union. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

De Grauwe, P. (2014) Economics of Monetary Union, 10th edition. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.

Egan, M. (2001) Constructing a European Market. Oxford University Press.

Hodson, D. (2015) 'Policy-Making under Economic and Monetary Union: Crisis, Change, and Continuity' in Helen Wallace, Mark A. Pollack, and Alasdair R. Young (eds.) Policy-Making in the European Union, pp. 166-195.

Howarth, D. and Sadeh, T. (2010) 'The Ever Incomplete Single Market: Differentiation and the Evolving Frontier of Integration', Journal of European Public Policy 17: 7, pp. 922-35.

Jabko, N. (2006) Playing the Market. A Political Strategy for Uniting Europe, 1985-2005. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Kaunert, C. (2011) European Internal Security: Towards Supranational Governance in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice. Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press.

Majone, G. (2000) 'The Credibility Crisis of Community Regulation', Journal of Common Market Studies 38: 2, pp. 273-302.

Marsh, D. (2009) The Euro: The Politics of the New Global Currency. New Haven, CT and London: Yale University Press.

Mattli, W. and Slaughter, A.-M. (1998) 'The ECJ, governments and legal integration in the EU', International Organization 52: 1, pp. 177-210.

Meunier, S. (2007) Trading Voices: The European Union in International Commercial Negotiations. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Meunier, S. and K. Nicolaïdis (2011) 'The European Union as a Trade Power' in Christopher Hill and Michael Smith (eds.) *International Relations and the European Union*. 2nd edition. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 275-298.

Myths and Facts of the EU Budget, EU Commission

Smith, K. E. (2008) *European Union Foreign Policy in a Changing World*, 2nd edition. Oxford and Malden, MA: Polity.

Weiler, J. H. H. (1999) *The Constitution of Europe. 'Do the New Clothes Have an Emperor?' and Other Essays on European Integration*. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press.

Web Links helping you with further research:

The EU's official website (<http://europa.eu/>) is a useful starting point. It provides further links to various official sites on EU policies, institutions, legislation, treaties, and current debates.

The Official Journal (OJ) is the authoritative and formal source for information on EU legislation, case law, parliamentary questions, and documents of public interest (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>).

The Economist (<http://economist.com/>) provides useful general articles, while European Voice (<http://european-voice.com/>) offers insider coverage of EU policies and news.

To follow current events and developments within the EU, the following sites are useful: EurActiv reports EU current affairs with analysis (<http://www.euractiv.com/>); another relevant source is politico.eu (www.politico.eu); while the EUobserver offers coverage of EU current affairs with a useful email bulletin service (<http://euobserver.com/>).

Current debates and topics are also addressed in series of think tank websites: Centre for European Policy Studies (<http://www.ceps.eu/>); the European Policy Centre (<http://www.epc.eu/>); the Centre for European Reform (<http://www.cer.org.uk/>); and the Trans European Policy Studies Association (<http://www.tepsa.be/>).