



PO/IR361– GERMANY AND THE EUROPEAN UNION
IES Abroad Berlin

DESCRIPTION:

In this course, we will examine the political structure and formation of the European Union, and in particular Germany's role in its development. We will explore the general history and preconditions of European integration and investigate why Germany, the biggest and economically strongest country in the EU, has been so deeply interested in European integration since World War II. We will also discuss the unique character of the European Union and the relations between its member states. Special emphasis will be placed on analysing the political challenges that lie ahead, included the dealing of the EU with the Corona Pandemic and its consequences for the cooperation among member states. In this context, we will address the deep problems of the world financial system and the consequences for the European Monetary Union. Another focus will be on the integration of Eastern European countries and the impact this has had on the development of the EU. We will finally address the future of the EU with regards to the NATO and the new challenges for the EU as a global actor.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Bernhard Maleck

LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION: German

ADDITIONAL COST: none

PREREQUISITES: none

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- The course will be taught as seminar through a combination of lectures, discussions, excursions, films, and a simulation of an European Council.
- Field trips to authentic and important sites of German and European policy
- Assigned readings are to be prepared before class for discussion
- Simulation of a European Council meeting on the topic of important current political challenges for the EU
- Moodle will be used to enhance students' learning experiences.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

The desired outcomes of the course, means used, and methods of assessment are closely linked. For example, the short paper on a specific member state of the EU is the basis for your participation in the simulation of a European Council.

Final grades will be based on:

- Participation - 10%
- Short Essay – 10%
- Midterm Exam - 20%
- Discussion Group Report – 10%
- European Council Simulation - 15%
- Research Paper – 15%
- Final Exam – 20%

Participation

This includes attendance, active participation in class discussions, bringing up pertinent questions, and familiarity with the reader texts. In order to prepare in advance for the seminars, students should make notes of the assigned readings, summarize the main ideas and formulate questions on the topic. The grading rubric for participation is available in the IES Berlin Academics Manual on Moodle.



Short Essay

A short essay (2 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt) on the motives of European integration after WWI and WWII is due at the end of week 2.

Discussion Group Report

In week 4, we will form four discussion groups: Each group prepares and presents a report in class on one of the four main political institutions of the EU. A written report (2-3 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt) on a specific political institution of the EU based on the results of discussion groups is due at the end of week 4.

Midterm Exam

The midterm exam is a written in-class exams (90 minutes), consisting of two parts: 1) questions on politics, policy, and dates and 2) one or two short essays on topics covered in class. It covers the contents of the first part of the course (week 1-5).

European Council Simulation

The simulation will be organized in week 10. Each student represents one member state of the EU as Head of Government (Prime Minister, Chancellor, or President) at the European Council. Topics covered in the simulation will be related to the main political problems of the EU at that time. For the simulation, each student prepares and presents a political statement for the initial “round table session” of the European Council (due the day before the simulation at 8:00 pm); students must also prepare to take part actively in the following discussion and the decision making of the European Council.

Research Paper

A research paper (5-6 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt) analysing the role of a specific country as member of the EU is due at the end of week 11.

Final Exam

The final exam is a written in-class exams (90 minutes), consisting of two parts: 1) questions on politics, policy, and dates and 2) one or two short essays on topics covered in class. It covers the contents of the second part of the course (week 7-12).

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

- understand the political structure and the institutions of the EU, its responsibilities and tasks,
- analyse the European Union’s historical background, its political development, and explain the significance of the past 70 years,
- define the political challenges that lie ahead,
- understand, analyse, and discuss Germany’s role in the EU,
- discuss the chances and risks of the integration of new member states,
- understand the chances and problems of the enlargement of the EU,
- compare the EU with other organisations of states.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance and punctuality in all courses and field studies are mandatory. Absences can only be excused for valid reasons. Unexcused absences can affect students’ grades. Students who miss 25% or more of all class sessions will fail the course. Missed exams cannot be taken at another time except in case of documented illness. Late submission of term papers and other work will result in grade reduction unless an extension due to illness or an emergency is approved. Please consult the IES Berlin Academics Manual on Moodle for additional details.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Students are expected to abide by the IES Abroad Academic Integrity Code. Assigned papers need to be properly and amply footnoted where appropriate, with all sources attributed. Poorly written and grammatically sloppy papers will be judged more severely. If necessary, students should work with a language tutor.

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Readings and Assignments
Week 1:	Session 1: Where is Europe? What is Europe? (Geography, Economy, Political Structure, Population) Where and what is Germany? The 20th Century and the Consequences for Europe. European Election 2014: Outcomes and Consequences. Better more than less Europe. Current situation of the EU. Challenges for Europe.	
	Session 2: Europe and the Great War	Field Trip: Excursion to important places for European history and politics in the governmental area of Berlin. WWII and Present. Museum Topography of Terror.
Week 2	Session 3: Hitler's plans for Europe. Europe during and after WWII – Germany between surrender and a new beginning	Reading: Piepenschneider, Melanie (2012), Die Europäische Union im 21. Jahrhundert, in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, Vol. 279, Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 4-6. Short Essay due (2 pages) on Hitler's plans for Europe and Motives of European Integration after WWs. Use the field trips as source of information.
	Session 4: Better more than less Europe! The current situation of the EU. Challenges for Europe and the EU. Specific challenge of the corona virus pandemic for EU.	Reading: Schmuck, Otto (2015), Motive und Leitbilder der Europäischen Einigung, in: Europäische Union. Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 7-17.
Week 3	Session 5: First attempts of uniting Western Europe: the Schumann Plan and the creation of the European Coal and Steel Community	Reading: The Schuman Declaration of May 9, 1950. Pp. 1-20. In class: Film „Jean Monnet – Father of Europe“
	Session 6: The Treaties of Rome (EEC and EURATOM)	Reading: Bericht des Europäischen Parlaments über den Vertrag von Lissabon (29. Januar 2008), „Worin unterscheidet sich der neue Vertrag von den geltenden Verträgen?“ Pp.18 ff.

<p>Week 4</p>	<p>Session 7: Institutions of ECSC, EEC, EURATOM. Merger Treaty</p>	<p>Discussion groups: We form four discussion groups: Each group prepares and presents a report in class on one of the four main political institutions of the EU.</p> <p>Reading: Bericht des Europäischen Parlaments (29. Januar 2008), Pp.28-40.</p> <p>Discussion Group Report due: Upload the summaries to the discussion forum of the course in Moodle at the end of this week (Sunday, 24:00)</p>
	<p>Session 8: Institutions of the EU: European Council and Council of Ministers; European Commission and European Parliament; European Law Court</p>	<p>Reading: Vertrag über die Europäische Union (EUV) 2008, in Vertrag von Lissabon, Pp. 39-45.</p> <p>Piepenschneider, Melanie (2015), Die EU – Arena politischer Macht, in: Europäische Union, Pp.21-29.</p>
<p>Week 5</p>	<p>Session 9: Germany's position and role within the EU: Germany as the biggest and, with respect to economic strength, strongest member state of the EU</p>	<p>Reading: Bauer, Michael and Janis A. Emmanoulidis (2011), Deutschland in der EU, in: Europa von A bis Z. Ed. Werner Weidenfeld and Wolfgang Wessels. Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 106-113.</p>
	<p>Session 10: German Unification 1990 and its consequences for European Union. Acceleration of European integration.</p>	<p>Reading: Schöllgen, Gregor (1999), Die Außenpolitik der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, München: C.H. Beck'scheVerlagsbuchhandlung, Pp. 182–222.</p>
<p>Week 6</p>	<p>Mid-term Exam</p>	
<p>Week 7</p>	<p>Session 11: Brexit: The consequences of the British decision to leave the EU. Chances and risks for the future relations of the UK and the EU. Risks for the future of the peace process based on Good Friday Agreement for Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>Reading: Notification letter of the British Prime Minister (2017)</p> <p>Agreements EU and Great Britain (2017)</p>
	<p>Session 12: The political importance of the European Monetary Union. The introduction of the Euro and its consequences. EU finances and the consequences of the crisis of finance capitalism 2008/2009. The Common European Market.</p>	<p>Reading: Piepenschneider, Melanie (2015), Die Verteilung der Haushaltsmittel, in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, Vol. 279 (2015), Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 29-31</p> <p>Heinemann, Friedrich (2015), Binnenmarkt, Währungsunion [2 chapters], in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, Bonn:</p>

		<p>Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 36-45.</p> <p>Ibid. „Europäische Währungsunion,“ pp. 36–37.</p>
Week 8:	<p>Session 13: The stability and growth pact and new attempts to stabilize the European Monetary Union in the present. The EU at the crossroads. The corona virus pandemic help package of the EU.</p>	<p>Reading: Guidelines on the EU Corona Pandemic Package, official EU website, documents of the European Council, 2021.</p>
	<p>Session 14: Enlargement of the EU I: Overcoming the division of Europe and the integration of Eastern European countries. The Copenhagen Criteria.</p>	<p>Reading: Böttger, Karin (2011), Erweiterung, in: Europa von A bis Z. Ed. Werner Weidenfeld, Wolfgang Wessels. Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 135-144.</p>
Week 9:	<p>Session 15: Enlargement of the EU II: The Case of Turkey and the enlargement of the EU in present and future times. The rise of right-wing extremism in the EU.</p>	<p>Reading: Progress report on Turkey, 2018. Documents of the European Commission: www.europa.eu</p>
	<p>Session 16: The EU, Germany and its position in the world: transatlantic relationships, relations with Russia (Ukraine Crisis) and China. Wars and conflicts in Europe after the end of Soviet communism. Chances for a common foreign and security policy of the EU. Possible conflicts between US, EU, and China and the consequences for the EU. The case of Nord Stream II and the Investment Agreement with China from Dec. 2020.</p>	<p>Reading: Schöllgen, Gregor (2003), Der Auftritt. Pp. 150-162.</p> <p>Documents of European Council. 2020/2021. www.europa.eu; Fundamental foreign policy papers of the US, China and EU, tba.</p>
Week 10	<p>Session 17: The EU-Responsibilities. Relations between the EU and its member states. Decision making in the EU. The decisive role of France for the EU.</p>	<p>Reading: Macron, Emanuel (2017), Speech given at the Sorbonne University.</p>
	<p>Session 18 (3 hrs): Simulation of an European Council: Primary current political problems and challenges of the EU.</p>	<p>Political Statement due: Each participant prepares a political statement of the country they represent in the simulation and uploads this to the Moodle discussion forum “Model EU” until the day before the simulation at 8:00 pm.</p>
Week 11:	<p>Session 19: Migration policy of the EU. The current refugee crisis and relations between Turkey and the EU. Responsibilities of member states. A common migration policy of the EU possible?</p>	<p>Reading: Dublin III Agreement of EU and documents of European Council 2018. www.europa.eu</p>
	<p>Session 20: Democracy as basis of membership and development of EU: The challenge of newly developed authoritarian regimes within the EU: The cases of Poland and Hungary</p>	<p>Reading: Documents of European Commission.2018. www.europa.eu</p>

		Research paper due at the end of this week (Sunday 24:00)
Week 12:	Session 21: Perspectives: Could the historical experiment of uniting the European continent fail? United States of Europe – only utopia again or realizable future? Final discussion part I.	Reading: Schmuck, Otto (2015), Der Weg der EU – Rückblick und Ausblick, in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung 2015. Pp. 69-76.
	Session 22: Consequences for the development of EU and a changed role of Germany in the European Union. Germany back on the world stage? Final discussion part II.	Reading: Greven, Ludwig (2015), Europa erlahmt, in: Die Zeit, Wochenzeitschrift, 16. 07.2015 Schöllgen, Gregor (2003), Der Auftritt. Deutschlands Rückkehr auf die Weltbühne, Propyläen Verlag, München. S. 35-52.
Week 13	Final Exam	

FIELD TRIPS

- Walking tour to places of importance for the beginning of WWI
- Walking tour to the governmental area in Berlin, places of decisions of WWII, and the Topography of Terror Museum

REQUIRED READINGS (Secondary Literature):

- Bauer, Michael and Janis A. Emmanoulidis (2011), Deutschland in der EU, in: Europa von A bis Z. Ed. Werner Weidenfeld and Wolfgang Wessels. Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, 2011. Pp. 106-113
- Böttger, Karin (2011), Erweiterung, in: Europa von A bis Z. Ed. Werner Weidenfeld, Wolfgang Wessels. Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 135-144.
- Greven, Ludwig (2015), Europa erlahmt, in: Die Zeit, Wochenzeitschrift, 16. 07.2015
- Heinemann, Friedrich (2015), Binnenmarkt, Währungsunion, [2 chapters], in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, (2015), Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 36-45.
- Piepenschneider, Melanie (2012), Die Europäische Union im 21. Jahrhundert,“ in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, Vol. 279, Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 4-6.
- Piepenschneider, Melanie (2012), Die EU – Arena politischer Macht, in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, Vol. 279, Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp.21-29.
- Piepenschneider, Melanie (2015), Die Verteilung der Haushaltsmittel, in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, Vol. 279, Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 29-31
- Schmuck, Otto (2015), Motive und Leitbilder der Europäischen Einigung, in: Europäische Union, Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Pp. 7-17.
- Schmuck, Otto (2015), Der Weg der EU – Rückblick und Ausblick, in: Europäische Union. Informationen zur Politischen Bildung, (2015), Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung 2015. Pp. 69-76.
- Schöllgen, Gregor (1999), Die Außenpolitik der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, München: C.H. Beck'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1999. Pp. 182–222.
- Schöllgen, Gregor (2003), Der Auftritt. Deutschlands Rückkehr auf die Weltbühne, Propyläen Verlag, München. S. 35-52; 150-162.

REQUIRED READINGS (Documents):

- Bericht des Europäischen Parlaments über den Vertrag von Lissabon (29. Januar 2008), „Worin unterscheidet sich der neue Vertrag von den geltenden Verträgen?“ Pp.18 ff.

- The Schuman Declaration of May 9, 1950. Pp. 1-20.
- Vertrag über die Europäische Union“ (EUV) 2008, in: Vertrag von Lissabon, Pp. 39-45.
- Speech given by Emmanuel Macron at the Sorbonne University (2017)
- Notification Letter of the British Prime Minister (2017)
- Documents of European Council. 2020/2021. www.europa.eu;
- Dublin III Agreement of EU and documents of European Council 2018. www.europa.eu
- Progress report on Turkey, Documents of the European Commission: www.europa.eu
- Guidelines of EU corona pandemic package, official EU website, documents of the European Council,

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Weidenfeld, Werner and Wolfgang Wessels. Europa von A bis Z. Lizenzausgabe für die Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Bonn: Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft Baden-Baden, 2011.
- Weidenfeld, Werner (ed.). Die Staatenwelt Europas. Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, 2004.
- Leggewie, Claus. Der Kampf um die Europäische Erinnerung. Ein Schlachtfeld wird besichtigt. München: C.H. Beck, 2011.
- Muschg, Adolf. Was ist europäisch? München: C.H. Beck, 2005.
- Woyke, Wichard (ed.) Handwörterbuch Internationale Politik, Lizenzausgabe für die Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung. Bonn: Barbara Budrich, Opladen & Farmington Hills, MI, 2011.
- Gasteyger, Curt. Europa zwischen Spaltung und Einigung 1945 bis 1993. Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, 1994.
- Kissinger, Henry A. Die Vernunft der Nationen. Über das Wesen der Außenpolitik. Berlin: Siedler, 1994.
- Leiß, Olaf (ed.). Die Europäische Union nach dem Vertrag von Lissabon, Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften, 2010.
- Mittag, Jürgen. Kleine Geschichte der Europäischen Union. Von der Europaidee bis zur Gegenwart, Münster: Aschendorff, 2008.
- Sandschneider, Eberhard. Der erfolgreiche Abstieg Europas. Heute Macht abgeben, um morgen zu gewinnen, München: Hanser, 2011.

Websites:

- www.europa.eu
- www.bpb.de
- <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-39842084>
- <https://www.bbc.com/news/world/europe>

Filmography:

- Jean Monnet – Father of Europe. A documentary.
- Several film clips on the EU.