



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
MIREL-600	Current European Issues	10
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
None	Politics and Governance	Fall/Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	European Studies	English/Greek
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
2 nd Cycle	Dr. Christina Ioannou	2 nd
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Co-requisites
Conventional	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

This course will assess issues, problems and prospects in the process of deepening and enlargement of the European Union. It will examine the recent developments in the European Union, the Treaty of Lisbon and its implications as well as current socio-economic problems. It will also cover the issues of a common security and defense policy, EU's strategic Partners, the institutional problems and the direction of change of the European Union. It also analyzes the main perspectives related with contemporary issues that are expected to affect the future of the EU, such as Brexit and relations with Turkey.

The course will not be confined to EU issues alone, but a broader European perspective will be taken, by addressing issues such as the crises in Kosovo Georgia and Ukraine, NATO enlargement, Euro-Atlantic relations, migration, terrorism, as well as European social models and the impact of EU membership on the Cyprus problem. In other words, the EU will not be treated as an isolated system, but it will be rather integrated in the wider international arena, by viewing it from a broader global perspective.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Argue and present an analysis and evaluation of various current European issues (e.g. EU enlargement policy, ratification and implementation of the Lisbon Treaty, NATO enlargement policy, EU-Russian relations, EU-US relations, energy security, immigration, sustainable development, aging societies, social models etc.)

2. Develop independent research skills on current European issues
3. Master a range of primary and secondary resources
4. Gain an understanding of current European events that affect the daily lives of European citizens
5. Study the EU from the wider global perspective
6. Communicate in English language both orally and in written form at (near) native level.
7. Use IT skills (word processing, Internet, e-mail) as study and communication tools.
8. Locate, analyze, synthesize, and effectively use sources of libraries, bibliographical material and academic research.

Course Content:

1. The state of the European Union today
2. What is the future of the European Union?
3. Brexit
4. EU-Turkey Relations
5. The issue of immigration, refugees and asylum seekers
6. The Problem of Terrorism
7. The strategic partnership between EU-NATO: Pros and Cons
8. Can the EU compete with the US and/or other growing great powers?
9. EU and Cyprus: how much can the EU offer for settling the Cyprus Problem?
10. EU-Russian relations
11. EU-China Relations
12. Is there a democratic deficit?

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Online Discussion, Presentations.

Assessment Methods:

Participation, Term Paper, Presentation, Final Exam.

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
European Union Politics. 4 th Edition	Cini, Michelle	Oxford University	2013	978-0-199-69475-4
Understanding the European Union. 6 th Edition	McCormick, John	Palgrave	2012	978-1-137-36232-2

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Luigi Narbone, Nathalie Tocci (2007). Running around in circles? The cyclical relationship between Turkey and the European Union, *Journal of Southern Europe and the Balkans*, Volume 9, Number 3

Tanja A. Börzel and Bidzina Lebanidze (2015). European Neighbourhood Policy at the Crossroads. Evaluating the Past to Shape the Future, MAXCAP Working Paper No. 12

Andrew Monaghan (2016). Russia's World Facing a Century of Instability, *European Institute for Security Studies*

John J. Mearsheimer (2014). Why the Ukraine Crisis is the West's Fault. The Liberal Delusions that Provoked Putin, *Foreign Affairs*, September/October

European Union Terrorism Situation and Trend Report (TE-SAT) (2016)

Philip R. Lane (2012). The European Sovereign Debt Crisis, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Volume 26, Number 3, pp. 49–68

Paul De Grauwe (2010). The Financial Crisis and the Future of the Eurozone, *Bruges European Economic Policy Briefings BEEP n° 21*

Marek Dabrowski (2010). The global financial crisis: Lessons for European integration, *Economic Systems* 34, 38–54

Odysseas Christou, Christina Ioannou, Anthos Shekkeris (2013). Social Cohesion and the State in times of Austerity: Cyprus, *Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)*

Tim Oliver, Michael John Williams (2016). Special relationships in flux: Brexit and the future of the US–EU and US–UK relationships, *International Affairs* 92: 3, 547–567

Adam Łazowski (2016). Unilateral withdrawal from the EU: realistic scenario or a folly? *Journal of European Public Policy*, Vol. 23, No. 9, 1294–1301

Mikko Mattila (2003). Why bother? Determinants of turnout in the European elections, *Electoral Studies* 22, 449–468

Richard Bellamy (2008). Evaluating Union citizenship: belonging, rights and participation within the EU, *Citizenship Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 6, 597–611