



Course Code EUS-105	Course Title Introduction to the European Union	ECTS Credits 6
Department European Studies and International Relations	Semester Spring	Prerequisites None
Type of Course Elective	Field European Studies	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 1st	Lecturer(s) Dr Christina Ioannou
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The course aims to integrate the economic and the political fabric of European affairs, through an interdisciplinary analysis of the key political, economic and social aspects of contemporary Europe. In this respect, the course describes how economic, political and social factors interrelate, to influence policy performance in Europe. The main objectives of this course are to address the following fundamental questions:

1. How did the EU develop through different Treaties?
2. Who rules in the EU?
3. How do different communities manage to live alongside each other?
4. How have different rounds of enlargement changed the EU?

These questions are particularly acute, as the EU represents a system of international governance. The Union has developed, over the years, from a narrow organisation that sought the peaceful management of the ‘industries of war’ in the post war era to a comprehensive framework of economic policy management. The aim of this course is essentially, then, to provide the basic theoretical background needed in order to understand the EU.

Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Evaluate the immediate post-world environment in the context of the first steps taken for European unity.
2. Illustrate a familiarity with the main landmarks of development of the organisation from a Coal and Steel Community, to an Economic Community and finally to the European Union.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the main treaties of the EU: Treaty of Paris, Treaties of Rome, Single European Act, Treaty of Maastricht, Treaty of Amsterdam, Treaty of Nice, Lisbon Treaty.
4. Illustrate knowledge of the basic institutions of the EU: European Commission, Council,

European Parliament.

5. Demonstrate an appreciation of the political process leading to the formation of the Single Market, the Economic and Monetary Union and the Euro-zone.
6. Illustrate a mature understanding of the historical process of EU enlargement.
7. Appraise the case of Turkey's potential accession in the EU, as well as the case of Balkan countries, and consider the relations between the EU and Russia.
8. Assess the role of the EU in the world today and the challenges posed.

Course Content:

1. Basic information about the EU: What is Europe? What is the EU?
2. Historical Background and First Steps towards Integration
3. From ECSC to EEC
4. From EEC to EU
5. EU Institutions
6. Economic Policy in the EU: The Single Market, the EMU and the Euro-zone
7. The Countries of the EU and the Policy of Enlargement
8. The EU and Turkey
9. The EU, Russia and the Balkans
10. The Role of the EU in the World and the Challenges ahead

Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Project, Presentation, Discussion.

Assessment Methods:

Final Examination, Mid-Term Examination, Project, Presentation, Attendance / Participation
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Required Textbooks:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
McCormick, John (MJ)	<i>Understanding the European Union</i>	Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan	2008	

Recommended Textbooks:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Bache, Ian and George, Stephen	<i>Politics in the European Union</i>	Oxford: Oxford University Press	2006	
Cini, Michelle	<i>European Union Politics</i>	Oxford: Oxford University Press	2005	
Cowles, Maria Green and Dinan, Desmond	<i>Developments in the European Union 2</i>	Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan	2004	
Cram, Laura, Dinan, Desmond and Nugent Neill	<i>Developments in the European Union</i>	New York: St. Martin's Press	1999	
Nugent, Neill	<i>The Government and Politics of the European Union</i>	Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan	1999	
