ECON/POL 321Eb European Union

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Office Hours: Wednesday 09:30-10:30

Course Information  
Spring 2020  
Monday & Wednesday  
16:00 till 17:20

Course objectives  
The aim of this course is that on its completion students will have a much better understanding of the interests, ‘identity’ and functioning of, not to mention challenges faced by, the EU, both as a geographical regional polity, and as a highly complex ongoing – though not uncontested – process of economic, political and social integration.

Methodology  
Given the course objectives stated above, and the highly complex nature of the subject matter, the course adopts multidisciplinary approach: historical, geographical and cultural aspects considered necessary accompaniments to the main politico-economic framework adopted.

Course description  
After initially situating the students within the context of the present EU of 28 members, the course begins by offering the students an historical overview of the motives and often conflictual forces lying behind the creation and subsequent development of the EU, best reflected in the main treaties signed: Paris, Rome, SEA, Maastricht, etc. Policy-making is notoriously complex in the EU. Getting to grips with it demands a clear understanding of the role and responsibilities of its principal institutions – the European Council, Council, European Commission, European Parliament, and Court of Justice – and how they interact with each other (and national governments), to produce hybrid ‘supranational’ laws/policy initiatives; a complex policy process, which of course, is not without its many detractors.

At the heart of the EU is the Single Market and its connected Competition Policy. As regional/global social forces pushed the four freedoms and deepened the process of economic integration pressure for Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) increased. How and why the member states chose to abandon their currencies in favor of an untested common currency needs to be examined, as do the structural challenges facing the ongoing management of the eurozone (especially pertinent during the present debt crisis), and the euro’s effects both on the region and the international monetary system at large.

Yet the EU is more than just an ‘economic club’; the process of economic integration “spilling-over” into a wide range of connected nominally “political” policy areas, which, the EU claims, have improved the quality of life of EU citizens. But not all citizens are convinced of the virtues of this deepening integration. The “freedom of movement of people”, especially, has been vilified by the popularist Right (which in turn has seen its support increase), constituting a key rallying point, amongst others, for the Brexit referendum. The course seeks to shed some light on these issues as well as evaluating the evolving nature of the UK-EU relationship following London’s formally activating Article. 50 of the Treaty of Lisbon.
The EU’s place in globalized post-Cold War world is then addressed, comprising of a review of the region’s external trade relations (special attention being paid to transatlantic commerce) and evolving foreign and security policy, involving an assessment of the obstacles preventing the adoption of a coherent common global position and the role of NATO.

Finally, the course seeks to shed light on the dynamics of EU enlargement: the costs and benefits, as well as the institutional process established. To illustrate the above, the course focuses on recent eastward expansions (from 2004 onwards), analysing the numerous socio-economic, politico-juridical and logistical challenges posed for ‘old’ and ‘young’ members alike, and the accompanying debates with regards efficiency, democracy, equality and identity. These debates are intensified still further with regards the possible future incorporation of Turkey. The course concludes by evaluating the latter’s credentials for joining the EU?

Class schedule (The syllabus may be subject to change)

1. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

29th January – Presentation of course; Geography
Class hand-outs

3rd February – Beginnings of European integration
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp.48-54

5th February – ‘Progress’ in the 1950s; Britain’s position
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp.51-56

2. EVOLUTION OF THE EU: KEY TREATIES

10th February – Single European Act
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp.56-59

12th February – Treaty of Maastricht
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp.59-61

17th February – Developments Post-Maastricht
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp.61-72

19th February – QUIZ + Debate

3. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

24th February – Functioning of key EU institutions I
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp.73-95

26th February – Functioning of key EU institutions II
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp.73-95

2nd March – No Class (Puente)

4th March – Law-making in the EU
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp.73-95
4. EU POLICY-MAKING PROCESS
   9th March – Principles, policy environment & policy cycle
   McCormick pp.120-139

   11th March – Features of the policy process
   McCormick pp.120-139

   16th March – MIDTERM EXAM

5. ECONOMIC & MONETARY UNION (EMU)
   18th March – Interest in Economic & Monetary Union (EMU)
   Class hand-outs
   McCormick pp.158-168

   23rd March – Maastricht, stages, criteria & launch of EMU
   Class hand-outs
   McCormick pp.158-168

   25th March – Functioning & management of eurozone
   Class hand-outs
   McCormick pp.158-168

   30th March – The Euro: past, present & future challenges
   Class hand-outs
   McCormick pp.158-168

6. INTERNAL POLICIES
   1st April – Competition Policy & the Single Market
   McCormick pp.145-158

   6th/8th April – NO CLASS (Semana Santa)

   13th April – Immigration Policy
   McCormick pp.183-187

   15th April – Brexit
   Class hand-outs

   20th April – Common Agricultural Policy
   Class hand-outs
   McCormick pp.177-183

7. EXTERNAL POLICIES
   22nd April – External Trade Policy
   McCormick pp.194-195; 204-209

   27th/29th April – NO CLASS (Feria)

   4th May – Transatlantic Trade
   Class hand-outs
   McCormick pp. 210-217

   6th May – Foreign & Security Policy
   Class hand-outs
   McCormick pp. 194-204
8. ENLARGEMENT

11th May – Enlargement I: Process; pros/cons of enlargements
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp. 31-39; 211-213

13th May – Enlargement II: Turkey
Class hand-outs
McCormick pp. 31-39; 211-213

18th- 21st May – FINALS

Readings
Required text book (available from Papelería MAB 29, Edificio Celestino Mutis, UPO)

Some useful webs
www.europa.eu - EU web-page - history, policies, legislation, statistics, decisions,
www.economist.com - Analytical articles on world economic/political affairs
www.guardian.co.uk – UK daily, broad range of national/international news articles
www.realinstitutoelcano.org/default_eng.asp - Real Instituto Elcano - Spain, IR, politics

Course Requirements and Grading
Assessment for the course consists of one short quiz and two exams (all written) and an oral presentation (in pairs/small groups) on an assigned relevant topic. With regards the oral presentation, on the day of their presentation each student has to hand in the following printed documents for their section: an outline, a bibliography and a half page summary (TMR 12, single space). Students will be graded individually. Finally, students will be required to complete assigned readings/summarize articles etc. outside class and to actively participate in class discussions, which will be reflected in their ‘participation’ grade. (N.B.: ‘being there’ does not = ‘participation’).
The distribution of the final grade is the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam (TBA)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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- The dates for the quiz, exams and presentation will not be changed under any circumstances.
- Spanish grades run: 10-9.0 (A), 8.9-7.0 (B), 6.9-5.0 (C), 4.9-0 (F)

Attendance, Punctuality and General Course Policies
Attendance is mandatory at all classes. As we understand that you might fall ill or be unable to come to class (e.g. due to a religious holiday, a flight delay, a family wedding/reunion, a graduation, a job interview, etc.) at some point during the semester, you are allowed up to 4 absences. You will be responsible for the material covered and any work missed. You will not need to justify your absences (up to 4) in any way unless you miss an exam, a presentation, a quiz, etc. In this case, you must present a doctor's note (signed, stamped and dated) to be able to reschedule the exam, etc. It will still count as an absence but you will be allowed to retake the exam, etc. We don't encourage you to use all 4 days unless you really need them as your participation grade may suffer if you are not in class. If used unwisely and you get sick late in the semester, the following penalties will apply:
- On your 5th absence, 1 point will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
- On your 6th absence, 3 points will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
- On your 7th absence, 5 points will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
For classes that meet once a week, each absence counts as two. For classes that meet daily, the penalties outlined above apply if you go over 6 absences (7th absence=5th absence above). Exams missed due to an excused absence must be made up within a week of returning to classes. Talk to your professor immediately after your return.

* **Punctuality** is required. If a student arrives more 15 minutes late it will constitute a 0.5 absence. However, no student will be permitted entrance more than 25 minutes after the beginning of the class and hence will be marked absent.
  * **Leaving the classroom:** Leaving the classroom on repeated occasions is disturbing to both your professor and your classmates and may adversely affect your participation grade. Please make use of the 10-minute breaks in between classes to fill up your water bottle, use the restroom, etc.
  * **Communicating with instructor:** Please allow at least 48 hours for your instructor to respond to your emails. The weekend is not included in this timeframe. If you have an urgent request or question for your professor, be sure to send it during the week.
  * Please keep your cell phones turned off during class.
  * **Strictly no food** to be consumed in class.

**Academic Honesty**
Academic integrity is a guiding principle for all academic activity at Pablo de Olavide University. Cheating on exams and plagiarism (which includes copying from the Internet) are clear violations of academic honesty. A student is guilty of plagiarism when he or she presents another person's intellectual property as his or her own. The penalty for plagiarism and cheating is a failing grade for the assignment/exam and a failing grade for the course. Avoid plagiarism by citing sources properly, using footnotes and a bibliography, and not cutting and pasting information from various websites when writing assignments.

**Learning accommodations**
If you require special accommodations, you must stop by the International Center to speak to Carmen G. Hernández (the Faculty coordinator: cgheroje@acu.upo.es) to either turn in your documentation or to confirm that our office has received it. The deadline is **February 21st**. Carmen will explain the options available to you.

**Behavior Policy**
Students are expected to show integrity and act in a professional and respectful manner at all times. A student's attitude in class may influence his/her participation grade. The professor has a right to ask a student to leave the classroom if the student is unruly or appears intoxicated. If a student is asked to leave the classroom, that day will count as an absence regardless of how long the student has been in class. Cell phone use is not allowed and animals (except seeing-eye dogs) are not permitted in the classrooms.

**Calendar**
- Quiz: February 19th
- Midterm Exam: March 16th
- Presentation: TBA
- Final Exam: between 18th-21st May

**Holidays**
- Thursday, February 27: “Puente.” No classes will be held.
- Friday, February 28: Día de Andalucía.
- Monday, March 2: “Puente.” No classes will be held.
- Sunday, April 5 - Sunday, April 12: Semana Santa (Holy Week).
- Friday, May 1: Labor Day.
- Saturday, April 26 - Sunday, May 2: Feria de Abril (Seville's April Fair).