

European Union Politics and Policy (F710382)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size	<i>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</i>		
Credits 3.0	Study time 90 h	Contact hrs	30.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2021-2022

A (semester 1)	English	Gent	online lecture	0.0 h
			lecture	30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2021-2022

Dupont, Claire	EB25	lecturer-in-charge
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Offered in the following programmes in 2021-2022

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Science in Public Administration and Management	3	A
Exchange programme in Economics and Business Administration	3	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

European Union, EU institutions, policymaking, European Commission, European Parliaments, European Council, Council of EU, Court of Justice, politics, interests, institutional design, decision-making procedures.

Position of the course

This course provides an overview of the EU's structure and decision-making procedures, focusing on developing key analytical skills in students to assess political arguments and interests on different sides of debates in the EU today. The course deepens knowledge on the functioning of the EU, and the underlining principles and values of European integration. Students are expected to engage with materials in a critical manner, and the lecturer will highlight multiple political perspectives for the development of the EU today, and for specific debates within policy areas and on the future of the EU more generally.

Contents

- Exploring the nature of the European Union: what is it? What is it not?
- EU decision-making in context: Treaties, procedures, institutions and politics
- The role and development of the European Commission
- The role and development of the European Parliament
- The role and development of the Council of the European Union
- The role and development of the European Council
- The role and development of the Court of Justice
- The role of national parliaments in the EU
- Lobbying in the EU: multiple interests influencing political decision-making
- Policy case studies: selection of in-depth studies of policy on trade, climate change, environment, energy, agriculture or migration

Initial competences

Students should have some basic knowledge about the origin and functioning of the EU.

Final competences

- 1 To deepen knowledge on the purpose and functioning of the EU.
- 2 To understand the context within which EU decisions are made.
- 3 To critically assess political arguments in favour of one policy choice over another.
- 4 To critically assess the multiple lobby interests involved in policymaking.
- 5 To apply these critical thinking skills to contemporary societal problems.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, lecture, online discussion group, seminar, online lecture, online lecture: plenary exercises, online seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

blending learning; online lessons and in-class discussions

Learning materials and price

All materials will be added to the online learning platform, Ufora.

References

Course content-related study coaching

During, before and after class, and on appointment. Contact hours for students will be communicated at the beginning of the semester.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Mid-term paper and exam, participation (online discussion)

Calculation of the examination mark

Mid-term paper on EU policymaking: 40%

Participation: 10%

Exam: 50%