

European Political Integration (K000054)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 6.0

Study time 180 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

excursion

independent work

lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Vos, Hendrik

PS03

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

[Bachelor of Science in Business Administration](#)

6

A

[Bachelor of Science in Communication Science](#)

6

A

[Bachelor of Science in Economics](#)

6

A

[Bachelor of Science in Political Science](#)

6

A

[Bachelor of Science in Sociology](#)

6

A

[Micro-credential European Political Integration](#)

6

A

[Linking Course Master of Science in Political Science\(main subject International Politics\)](#)

6

A

[Linking Course Master of Science in EU-Studies](#)

6

A

[Preparatory Course Master of Science in Political Science\(main subject International Politics\)](#)

6

A

[Preparatory Course Master of Science in EU-Studies](#)

6

A

[Elective Set Political Sciences](#)

6

A

[Elective Set Southeast-European Language](#)

6

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

History of European integration, current developments in European politics

Position of the course

This is a basic course aiming to familiarize students acquainted with the history of European integration from WW2 to the present day and to offer them a framework in which current developments can be situated. Attention is paid to the most recent developments, which may be suggested by students, who are expected to offer input for discussion during the lecture.

Contents

Each lecture pays attention to the most recent developments in European politics. In this, students may provide input, suggesting topics and offering comments for discussion. In addition, the course presents a general overview of the most important theories of integration and of events in the history of European integration from WW2 to the present day:

- Theoretical approaches of European integration (basics)
- The precursors of European Integration after WW2
- The establishment of the ECSC, the failure of the EDC
- The Rome Treaties
- Malaise in the Sixties
- Eurosclerosis in the Seventies
- Towards the Single European Act
- The Maastricht Treaty in the international context

- Europe in the Nineties
- The ups and downs of the European Constitution and the Treaty of Lisbon

Initial competences

None

Final competences

- 1 - To be able to explain the history of European political integration from WWII to present day.
- 2 - To be able to critically analyze and interpret events and evolutions in the European Integration
- 3 - To be able to apply theoretical models of political integration to statements on European political integration
- 4 - To be able to form and formulate a sound opinion on (current) political developments in the EU
- 5 - To be able to critically reflect on the applicability of European integration theories to the history of EU integration.
- 6 - To adopt a critical attitude toward statements concerning European integration
- 7 - To be able to independently and critically follow up current political events.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Excursion, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lecture (including interaction with, and input from, students)

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Dit is Europa - de geschiedenis van een Unie
 Indicative price: € 27
 Optional: no
 Language : Dutch
 Author : Hendrik Vos
 Number of Pages : 630
 Oldest Usable Edition : 2021
 Online Available : Yes
 Available in the Library : Yes
 Available through Student Association : Yes
 Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly
 Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly
 Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : occasionally

Type: Handbook

Name: De Europese Unie in woelig water
 Indicative price: € 24
 Optional: yes
 Language : Dutch
 Author : Rob Heirbaut & Hendrik Vos
 Oldest Usable Edition : 2021
 Online Available : No
 Available in the Library : Yes
 Available through Student Association : Yes
 Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly
 Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly
 Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : occasionally

References

Nugent, Neill, The Government and Politics of the European Union. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.
 McCormick, John, Understanding the European Union. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.
 Dinan, Desmond, Ever Closer Union – an introduction to European integration. Houndmills,

Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.

Cini, Michelle, Perez-Solorzano Borraran, Nieves (eds.), European Union Politics, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support through Ufora (forums, FAQ, documents, e-mail)
By appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Oral exam with written preparation, testing students' knowledge of, insight into, and critical attitude toward, the history and current events of European political integration.

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodic assessment (100%)