

THE EUROPEAN UNION AT A CROSSROAD: ISSUES AND POLICIES

Professor: **Jan ROVNY, Francesco SARACENO, Imola STREHO, Earl WANG**

Session: **July 2024**

Language of instruction: **English**

Number of hours of class: **36h**



Objective of the Course

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the multiple European realities and to provide the necessary tools for understanding how the EU can face these challenges in an ever-changing world. This interdisciplinary course will permit students to approach these major issues through the lenses of political science, law, economics, and history.



Summary

Throughout the course, the lectures will allow participants to acquire a fundamental understanding of the evolution of European integration, and of the political, judicial, and economic instruments of the European Union that have developed over the years, as well as its role on the international scene.

Lectures will be taught by well-known professors and aim to provide participants with a solid foundation in each of the different themes addressed. Workshops will help participants to deepen their understanding of the historical and political aspects of each of the themes addressed during the lectures, providing a challenging forum for discussion. A special focus will be dedicated to EU environmental law and particularly the fight against climate change.



Organization of the course

Theme 1: The History of European Integration (4 hours) – Jan Rovny

The objective of this section is to explore the central present-day challenges of the European Union from a historical perspective. The main steps of the history of European integration, from the 1950s to the present, will be discussed to better understand how to face current and future challenges.

- Lecture 1: The Origins of EU Integration (2 hours)
- Lecture 2: The Evolution of European Integration (2 hours)

Theme 2: The Political System of the European Union (6 hours) – Jan Rovny

This section is designed to give participants the means to understand how the EU operates, what it does, and the main problems it faces.

- Lecture 1: Institutions of the EU (2 hours)
- Lecture 2: Political Competition and Europe (2 hours)
- Lecture 3: Populism and Europe (2 hours)

Theme 3: The Constitutional Foundations of the EU (10 hours) – Imola Strehö

This section focuses on the actors, processes, principles, and tools that provide the legal framework for European integration. The students will be introduced to sources of EU law, the European Union institutions and the competences of the EU. This section will pay particular attention to the legal consequences of Brexit.

- Lecture 1: The Foundations of the EU Legal Integration (2 hours)
- Lecture 2 Challenges to the EU Legal Order (2 hours)
- Lecture 3: The EU Internal Market (2 hours)
- Lecture 4: Brexit and the EU Trade Policy (2 hours)
- Lecture 5: European Citizenship and the EU Values (2 hours)

Theme 4: The Economics of European Integration (10 hours) – Francesco Saraceno

This section aims to introduce participants to the economic governance of the European Union and to the economic challenges faced by its member states. It will be dedicated to the institutions involved in the economic governance of the EU, to the notion of Optimal Currency Areas, and to specific instruments such as the Stability Pact.

- Lecture 1: Institutions (2 hours)
- Lecture 2: Optimal Currency Area (2 hours)
- Lecture 3: Crises and Inequality (1) (2 hours)
- Lecture 4: Crises and Inequality (2) (2 hours)
- Lecture 5: Secular Stagnation and Macroeconomic Policy (2 hours)

Theme 5: Europe in the World (6 hours) – Earl Wang

This section will shed light on the EU as an international actor. The course will first provide an overview of the EU's actorness. It will be followed by the institutional design and decision-making methods of the EU's foreign and security policy. The third part will cover the EU's contribution to the security domain around the globe.

- Lecture 1: The EU as an International Actor (2 hours)
- Lecture 2: The EU's Foreign and Security Policy: Actors and Decision-Making (2 hours)
- Lecture 3: The Contribution of the EU to Global Security (2 hours)



Bibliography

EU Research Centers and Think Tanks

- Centre d'Études Européennes, Sciences Po, www.cee.sciences-po.fr
- Notre Europe, www.institutdelors.eu
- Fondation Robert Schuman, www.robert-schuman.eu/fr
- Eurocité, www.eurocite.eu
- Mouvement Européen, www.mouvement-europeen.eu
- Nouvelle Europe, www.nouvelle-europe.eu
- Europartenaires, www.europartenaires.net
- European Union Institute for Security Studies, www.iss.europa.eu

EU Blogs

- EU Law Analysis Blog, <http://eulawanalysis.blogspot.fr/>
A blog on European Union law for practitioners, students, academics and everyone else who may be curious about it.
- Brussels Blog, <http://blogs.ft.com/brusselsblog/>
Financial Times blog on EU news.
- Telos, www.telos-eu.com
Political science blog about the EU news and major issues.
- Europol – European Politics and Policy, <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europolblog/>
Multidisciplinary academic blog run by the London School of Economics and Political Science.
- Coulisses de Bruxelles, <http://bruxelles.blogs.liberation.fr/>
Liberation blog on EU news (in French).
- Fenêtre sur l'Europe, http://www.fenetreeurope.com/php/page.php?section=actu_jour
Blog on EU News (in French).



Requirements for validation

- Class participation (20%)
- Group presentation in class – Current EU News (20%)
- Final exam (60%): Multiple-choice exam on each of the themes covered during the course.



Professor's Biography



Jan Rovny is an associate professor at the Sciences Po Center for European Studies (CEE) and the Interdisciplinary Research Center for the Evaluation of Public Policies (LIEPP). His research concentrates on political competition in Europe with the aim of uncovering the ideological conflict lines in different countries. At the Summer School, he will teach the themes “History of the European Integration” and “The Political System of the EU.”



Francesco Saraceno is the Deputy Department Director at OFCE, Observatoire Français des Conjonctures Economiques of Sciences Po. He is in charge of the economics major in Sciences Po's Master of European Affairs. His current research focuses mainly on the interaction between structural reforms and active policies, as well as on the Stability Pact and the European budget policy. At the Summer School, he will teach the theme “The Economics of European Integration.”



Imola Streho is an associate professor at the Law School and Vice Dean of the Doctoral School at Sciences Po. Her research focuses on EU law and particularly on the free movement of services in the EU. At the Summer School, she will teach the theme “The Constitutional Foundations of the EU.”



Earl Wang is a doctoral researcher and adjunct lecturer at the Centre for International Studies - Sciences Po/CNRS. He is also a research fellow at the Franco-German Observatory of the Indo-Pacific, and is associated with the Institute for Strategic Research. His research focuses on European Union foreign policy and grand strategy. At the Summer School (University Programme), he will teach the theme “Europe in the World”.