

SYLLABUS
EUROPEAN UNION: MECHANISMS AND INSTITUTIONS
Leadership, 3rd year

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Course description

No. of credits: 4; Evaluation: exam; Specialized course.

The 'European Union: mechanisms and institutions' course is organized in four main parts, covering most of the present EU study and research, as follows:

- History of European integration, general concepts and theories;
- Creation of EU law: institutions, procedures, competencies;
- EU law and its enforcement: treaties, directives, regulations, principles;
- Substance: market (emphasis on workers), European citizenship, EMU, relevant policies.

Course learning objectives

After going through the course during the semester, the specific learning objectives of the course are:

- students are initiated in understanding the legal order of the European Union and its legal, political, economic and social complexity;
- students can understand and discuss the impact of the EU in Romania and on Romanian citizens as European citizens;
- students understand the decision-making process of the EU and the role of different actors (institutions / state, market, society) in this process;
- students have the capacity to interpret the theoretical concepts in the context of specific policy areas;
- students can apply theoretical concepts in analyzing Romania's case, as a Member State of the EU;
- students have the capacity to understand, argue, discuss current issues in the theoretical context of integration (legal, political, economic).

The main competencies that the course contributes to are related to:

- the capacity to analyze and apply theoretical concepts of integration, also in the case of Romania;
- the capacity to understand, argue, discuss problems or situations of current interest in the theoretical context of integration;
- the capacity to understand and analyze the interactions among supranational actors and state-level actors in the process of European integration;
- the capacity to analyze complex processes such as 'integration' or 'Europeanization' from Romania's perspective, by applying relevant theories to current events/processes affecting different fields (institutions, politics, democracy, policy, law, economy).

Course contents

I. History of European integration, general concepts and theories

W1. Introductory course. General presentation of the course content and requirements. General concepts: international cooperation, international organization, intergovernmental, supranational, political integration, economic integration, single market, EMU.

W2. The evolution of the European integration, from the European Communities to the European Union. European Communities, treaty revisions, the present day European Union.

W3. The Treaty of Lisbon (main provisions compared to the treaty of Nice and the Constitutional treaty proposal, principles, scope, main policies).

W4. Theories of European integration: functionalism, federalism, neofunctionalism, intergovernmentalism, supranational governance and theories analyzing the EU as a political system.

II. Creation of EU law: institutions, procedures, competencies

W5. The institutional framework of the European Union. The European Council. Agenda-setting in the EU.

W6. The Council. The European Commission.

W7. The European Parliament. The ordinary legislative procedure.

W8. The Court of Justice of the European Union. Other institutions: the Court of Auditors, the European Central Bank, advisory bodies of the EU.

III. EU law and its enforcement: treaties, directives, regulations, principles

W9. Sources of EU law: treaties, regulations, directives, decisions, principles of EU law.

W10. Enforcement: direct applicability, direct effect, supremacy of EU law, relevant case law.

IV. Substance: market (emphasis on workers), European citizenship, EMU, relevant policies

W11. Overview of the EU policy making, scope of EU policy, redistributive policies, regulatory policies, Europeanization.

W12. Economic policy, the single market, free movement of workers, other aspects of economic integration.

W13. The economic and monetary union. The euro and Eurozone. European citizenship.

W14. Review of the course. Preparation for the exam.

Course methodology and requirements

The discipline is taught through a weekly course and a seminar.

The course materials are available on the e-learning platform of the faculty (Moodle). There you will have available all the materials that represent mandatory reading / learning. Additional / optional readings may be available on the course page. The order in which the course subjects are addressed may be changed, but the Moodle page will reflect the exact order in which the topics are discussed.

Seminar assignments (presentations) will be uploaded on Moodle and feedback will be provided individually by the instructor. Specific requirements are made available on Moodle.

Particular cases need to be discussed in private with the course instructor.

Attendance is mandatory in 75% of seminars, the consequence of non-attending is expulsion from the exam (as required by BBU and FSPAC regulations) and the course needs to be taken again in the next academic year.

Attendance is strongly recommended at the course since the subjects are discussed continually, from the course to the seminar (given timetable arrangements in the academic year 2018-19).

Evaluation

Grading starts from grade 1 (thus, 1 free point):

A. Written exam: 70% of the final grade

- Understanding of discipline concepts, theories and legal provisions;
- Capacity to argue on European integration issues (factors, alternative scenarios, social and economic implications);

- B. Evaluation during the semester (assignments, (reading) tests, class interaction/debate): 30% of the final grade
- Capacity to analyze and to apply concepts and theories to specific situations or case studies;
 - Participation in class discussions, theoretical argumentation of opinions, argumentation skills, etc.

Course bibliography (selection)

Course reading materials are provided to students during the semester on the e-learning platform. Other materials (case-studies, short readings, presentations) are provided in class. The general bibliography of the course is available as PDF books / materials.

- Robert Schutze, *An Introduction to European Law*, Cambridge University Press, 2012.
- Alina Kaczorowska, *European Union Law*, 2nd edition, Routledge, 2011.
- Herman Lelieveldt and Sebastiaan Princen, *The Politics of the European Union*, Cambridge University Press, 2011.
- Ramona Coman, Thomas Kostera and Luca Tomini (eds.), *Europeanization and European Integration. From Incremental to Structural Change*, Palgrave MacMillan, 2014.
- Paul Craig, Gráinne de Búrca, *EU Law. Text, Cases, and Materials*, 5th edition, Oxford University Press, 2011.