



STUDY PROGRAMME

1. POL
2. MATA

ACADEMIC YEAR

2025-2026

SEMESTER

Fall

COURSE TITLE

The Political Economy of European Integration: Single Currency, Single Market

COURSE PROFESSOR

Michele CHANG

COURSE ASSISTANT

Marco NICOLICH, Harm VAN DE PLASSCHE

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL)

Compulsory course

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

ECTS CREDITS

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1. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course provides an overview of some of the EU's major economic policies relating to economic and monetary union (EMU) and the single market. The first part of the course covers monetary integration, fiscal policy cooperation and economic policy cooperation, and banking union. The second part of the course deals with the single market, including capital markets union, digital policy, and industrial policy. No economics background is assumed, and the course will provide explanations of the major economic concepts relevant to each policy area. The course considers the objectives and institutional framework for the respective policies, considering their historical development and current trajectory. Major ideas from the political economy literature will be studied to explain their development.

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the main elements of European economic integration, particularly relating to Economic and Monetary Union and the single market;
- Analyse and interpret current and historical developments in EU economic policy in a critical manner from national and European perspectives;
- Evaluate academic and policy-oriented research;
- Apply major economic and political theories to European economic integration.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The above course objectives link up with the following programme-specific learning outcomes:

POL:

Knowledge-based

- A.1 Students develop a multidisciplinary understanding of the European political system.
- A.2 Students have a general knowledge of the main components of the EU political system: institutions, actors, decision-making procedures, competences and policies.
- A.3. Students comprehend the disciplinary knowledge and theories specific to EU studies.
- A.6 Students recognize the normative assumptions and implications of theories of European integration.

Skills-based

- B.1 Students can recognize, contextualize, explain, and interpret political, societal and economic phenomena in European integration. They can assess events, governance problems and political crises.
- B.2 Students can analyse the process and actors of EU policy-making at different levels of governance and can reflect on potential developments.
- B.3 Students can transform a complex problem into a research question, mobilize theories, develop a research design, and conduct empirical work to provide solutions in an analytical and balanced way.
- B.4 Students can flexibly apply theories and analytical frameworks from different disciplinary perspectives to the main issues of EU politics and policies.
- B.5 Students can analyse, in a limited amount of time, complex and new issues, by finding and investigating various sources of information and delivering an analytical and critical synthesis.

MATA:

- The graduate has good knowledge of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, the political and/or legal systems, the decision-making processes, the economic structures and the main internal and external policies of the European Union and the United States.
- The graduate has insights into historical, political, legal and economic aspects of transatlantic affairs as well as into those policy areas that are of essential importance to transatlantic affairs. He or she can use these insights to contextualize and interpret new developments.
- The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information and appropriately analyse relevant sources depending on his or her disciplinary focus within a short period of time and of suggesting possible actions that contribute to problem-solving in a creative way.

3. COURSE CONTENTS

Introduction to political economy

Part 1: EMU

- History and governance of the euro



- Global financial crisis through Covid

Part 2: Single Market

- History and governance of the single market
- Industrial policy
- Digital policy
- Financial integration

ECTS CARD

4. TEACHING METHOD

Lectures outlining the main empirical and theoretical content of the course; class discussions

Further details on the teaching method

Assignments include:

- 1) reading the assigned official documents, academic articles, and book chapters;

5. COURSE MATERIAL

Please refer to the detailed course outline for the full reading list.

6. EVALUATION

- a) 100% A final exam that will consist of a written exam of two essays. No outside materials are permitted.

Assessment at second attempt

During the second examination session the course is assessed 100% on the basis of a written resit exam.

Plagiarism: In line with Section 4.4 of the College Study Regulation 2024-2025 "[i]t follows that plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion and the falsification of data are all prohibited." Any written work submitted by a student shall be assessed on its originality as well as the depth and breadth of research undertaken. All cases of plagiarism, self-plagiarism or falsification of data within the meaning set out within the mentioned Study Regulation will result in the application of penalties, as defined by article 40 thereof.

Artificial Intelligence: n.a.