



STUDY PROGRAMME

ECO-EPPA + POL-EPPA + ECO-EEIB

ACADEMIC YEAR

2024 - 2025

SEMESTER

2

COURSE TITLE

EU POLICIES: REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF THEIR IMPLEMENTATION

COURSE PROFESSOR

KOEN BERDEN

COURSE ASSISTANT

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NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL)

**COMPULSORY (ECO-EPPA + POL-EPPA)
OPTIONAL (ECO-EEIB)**

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

ENGLISH

ECTS CREDITS

**4.5 (ECO-EPPA + ECO-EEIB)
3.5 (POL-EPPA)**

1. COURSE OBJECTIVE

The EU Policies course will familiarize students with the reality of policy development and implementation by offering them theoretical and practical exposure to the design, development, implementation and review of EU policies. The course objective will be achieved by studying concrete examples of recent flagship policies and how to make them work - the issues they sought to solve, how they were designed and applied, how stakeholders, including national administrations, interacted and what unexpected problems may have arisen. The EU Policies course will include a case study simulation, presentations, in-depth interactions, group work and exercises, to allow students to learn how to devise more efficient public policies, with a primary focus on economic, trade, pharmaceutical and green policies in times of the COVID-19 pandemic and the War in Ukraine.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this course, students should:

1. Be able to describe and contrast the overall development procedures (tools, methods, stakeholders and timeline) of key recent policy initiatives, in particular in international trade and the pharmaceutical sector.
2. Be able to compare policy options in the initial stages of policy developments and explain why a given option may be given preference in the context of competing political and institutional discourse.
3. Be able to pro-actively identify the main types of difficulties that may arise in the course of policy development, and learn strategies to overcome, contain or minimize them.



4. Be able to see policy development from the angle from different stakeholders.
5. Learn via simulations, practical activities and class participation how to develop the essential building blocks of innovative EU policies, and to ensure upstream and downstream buy-in from key stakeholders.
6. Be able to develop an increasing understanding on how to ensure consistent and effective implementation of different EU governance rules;
7. Be able to transfer methodology and practical tools necessary to ensure compliance with EU membership obligations.

The learning outcomes for this course tie in with the following learning outcomes for the European Economic Studies programme:

For ECO-EEIB and ECO-EPPA students

1. Understand the normative assumptions, implications and limitations of economic theory and economic policy-making.
2. Use economic theory to assess current problems and policies.
3. Learn how to acquire relevant information in related disciplines (law, political science).
4. Describe, explain and illustrate the core normative assumptions, implications and limitations of law and legal theory, political science theory and economics.
5. Use their knowledge of economics, legal principles and political science to analyse problems in law or political science.

For POL-EPPA students

1. Students have a general knowledge of the main components of the EU political system: institutions, actors, decision-making procedures, competences and policies.
2. Students comprehend the disciplinary knowledge and theories specific to EU studies.
3. Students develop a concrete understanding of the logics of policy-making and negotiations within the EU political and legal system, thanks to simulation and group work exercises and the drafting of policy papers.
4. Students can analyse the process and actors of EU policy-making at different levels of governance and can reflect on potential developments.

For ECO-MATA students

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. The graduate can approach the field of transatlantic affairs in a broad sense analytically by assessing the challenges in this domain with an open mind for diversity and for complex situations.
4. The graduate has the ability to critically reflect upon problems regarding an extensive range of



transatlantic affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.

5. 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.
6. The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to take responsibilities and function autonomously in a professional environment at national or international level, and especially in a transatlantic context, and to work efficiently and effectively through planning, organizing, setting priorities, meeting deadlines, cooperating across cultural boundaries and networking.

3. COURSE CONTENTS

The contents are only indicative, additional topics may be added to the course contents if time permits, vice versa.

Prof. Berden:

- A. COVID-19, its economic and health implications, and the EU policy response
- B. The EU approach to Open Strategic Autonomy and Building Back Better
- C. Trade Policy – in particular the WTO and EU bilateral trade agreements
- D. The EU in a global world: EU-US and EU-China relationships
- E. Brexit: the implementation and issues with the Northern Ireland Protocol
- F. The War in Ukraine, its implications and the EU policy response
- G. Innovation policy and IP framework

4. TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lectures, simulations, presentations, group work exercises, class discussions and practical activities.

Lectures are interactive and focus on student engagement (materials should be prepared upfront) and flanked by simulations. Students themselves participate actively to the content by making presentations followed by Q&A.

For example, to look at the WTO, TRIPS agreement and innovation policy, students will split in groups and prepare for a case role, carry out a simulation and discussion in front of a group of judges who have to pass a verdict on the balance between innovation into new medicines and access to medicines today.

5. COURSE MATERIAL

Lecture notes and readings. The readings will be made available through the course web page.



6. EVALUATION

The evaluation will be based on:

- Overall **class participation (20% of final grade)**;
- **Simulations and policy development** (group work on a given topic and debates in class) **(30% of final grade)**;
- **Closed book written exam (3 hours) (50% of final grade)**, questions will be asked based on the contents covered in the lectures.

Students who do not pass the course in the first examination session take the exam in the second examination session (resit), which according to the Study Regulations counts for 100% of the final course grade.

The use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (e.g. ChatGPT or Gemini) and Artificial Intelligence-powered tools (e.g. Copilot, DeepL, Grammarly or ChatPDF), or any attempt thereof, in digital written exams is prohibited under all circumstances and will be considered as “collusion” (under Art. 39 of the Study Regulations), sanctioned as (attempted) cheating and lead to a mark of 0 (under Art. 30b of the Study Regulations).

All the mobile phones and other electronic devices (except the laptop which you take the exam on) need to be put in silent mode and be kept in your bag throughout the whole duration of the exam. If you want to take and upload pictures to the exam, e.g. graphs, please raise your hand and wait for an explicit authorisation of a supervisor. Any other unauthorised usage and/or possession of phones and/or other electronic devices throughout the entire duration of the exam (inside or outside of a classroom) will be considered as (attempted) cheating and lead to a mark of 0 (under Art. 30b of the Study Regulations).

Students can use the built-in language dictionary in exam.net and/or bring a printed language dictionary which may be subject to inspection. While the use of standard online language dictionaries (e.g. Collins or Merriam-Webster) is tolerated, the translation of entire sentences/sections of text (e.g. via translation tools like Google Translate, DeepL or plug-ins) is strictly prohibited. Inserting (auto-)translated sections of text, or any attempt thereof, will be considered and sanctioned as (attempted) cheating (under Art. 30b of the Study Regulations).

For the detailed rules on the (digital written) examinations at the College of Europe, please refer to the provisions of the Study Regulations and *Dispositions particulières*. Students are responsible to have read and complied with the applicable rules.

The College of Europe reserves the right to change the delivery and assessment of the course in case of restrictions related to a pandemic. Any communication from the Department in this regard takes precedence over the information provided in this ECTS card.