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<b>Course title:</b>	European Studies
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>Contact hours:</b>	48 (6 per day)
<b>ECTS-Credits:</b>	4

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### **Course description**

The course will introduce the basics of the European Union and describe and explain the processes of widening and deepening of this unique political entity. This will cover an overview of European Union history, its evolution in economic and political terms as well as of its institutional structure and key policies up until today.

The focus of the course will be internally on the state of EU integration and its challenges - the need for reform and the growing difficulty to actually agree upon and implement reforms in the face of rising populism, authoritarianism and nationalism. Externally, the course explores the international role of the EU with its emphasis on multilateralism, including its self-declared role as a leader in the fight against climate change. Special emphasis will be placed on Europe's triple crisis – the Euro crisis, the migration crisis, and Brexit.

The morning sessions consist of lectures, literature-based discussions and oral presentations from working groups. After lunch the course will visit various institutions in Germany's political center. Students will have the chance to discuss the topics from the morning sessions with international experts from political institutions, embassies and think tanks.

### **Student profile**

Students from different countries, academic levels and backgrounds who are generally interested in European integration will benefit from each other in an intercultural and interdisciplinary learning process.

The course does not require special knowledge about European politics, law, history or culture, but participants should be interested in more than just their field of specialization.

In-class participation, especially in the discussions with experts, is essential for students' learning experience and plays an important role in grading.

### **Prerequisites**

The course is designed for students with different academic backgrounds and a general interest in Europe. There are no special prerequisites for the course.

### **Course requirements**

Attendance; active participation in the seminar's discussions and discussions with experts; oral and written presentation of a certain subject.

### Grading

Participation:	40%,
Oral presentations:	30%,
Final paper:	30%

### Reading

See course schedule. A course reader will be provided.

### Course schedule

Date	Program*
Wednesday, January 8, 2020	History of European Integration / Germany in the EU Excursion to the German Museum of History
Thursday, January 9, 2020	Institutions and Decision-Making: Politics and policies Excursion to the European Commission Representation
Friday, January 10, 2020	European Politics: Identity, Euroscepticism and Populism Excursion to the Social Science Research Centre (WZB)
Wednesday, January 15, 2020	Environmental Policy and Politics: The EU as a supranational and an international actor Role game: Decision-making in the EU
Thursday, January 16, 2020	Immigration and Asylum Policy Excursion to the Konrad Adenauer Foundation of the German Christian Democrats
Friday, January 17, 2020	In or out? Brexit and further enlargement Excursion to the association of Brits in Germany: Discussing the consequences of Brexit
Wednesday, January 22, 2020	The Euro and the financial crisis Excursion to the DIHK – the umbrella organisation of the German Chambers of Commerce – Discussing the Euro
Thursday, January 23, 2020	Final discussion: Challenges for the EU in the 21 <sup>st</sup> century Final exam

\*Field trips are subject to change depending on the availability of appointments and speakers. On field trip days, class hours may be adjusted.