

Name:	Dr. Jan-Henrik Meyer
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Course title:	European Studies
Language of instruction:	English
Contact hours:	48 (6 per day)
ECTS-Credits:	4

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 the need for reform, as well as externally on the international role of the EU in general with its emphasis on multilateralism, but also bilaterally in the relations between the EU and the USA, Russia and the Ukraine in particular. Relations with Turkey as a candidate for EU membership will be discussed regarding the question where Europe ends, but also to analyze issues of identity, energy security and in general costs and benefits of EU membership against the backdrop of 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.

Former classes consisted of regular students and practitioners such as civil servants, communication experts, young politicians and even members of parliaments.

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 the course success 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 9, 2019	History of European Integration / Germany in the EU Excursion to the German Museum of History
Thursday, January 10, 2019	Institutions and Decision-Making: Politics and policies Excursion to a German Federal Ministry
Friday, January 11, 2019	European Policy Making in action: The Euro and the financial crisis Role game: decision-making in the EU
Wednesday, January 16, 2019	The EU as an international actor Excursion to a think tank
Thursday, January 17, 2019	Identity, Euroscepticism and Populism Excursion to the German Parliament
Friday, January 18, 2019	In or out? Brexit and further enlargement: Relations with the UK and Turkey Excursion to Association of Brits in Germany: Discussing the consequences of Brexit
Wednesday, January 23, 2019	Immigration and Asylum Policy Excursion to a Lobbying Agency / NGO
Thursday, January 24, 2019	Final discussion: Challenges for the EU in the 21 st 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.