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<b>Course title:</b>	European Union – Global Player or Regional Hegemon?
<b>Track:</b>	B-Track
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>Contact hours:</b>	72 (6 per day)
<b>ECTS-Credits:</b>	6

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### **Course description**

The course will introduce students to the basic principles of the European Union and describe the processes of widening and deepening of this unique political entity. At the beginning, we will review the genesis of the world's only supranational organization that led to cooperation between member states and a peaceful development on the continent unseen in previous centuries. As the European Union is defined and perceived largely through the prism of its institutions, we will examine their role in pushing the integration process forward. Since EU policies are the frame of its institutions, we will discuss in more detail the historical development and current state of EU policies in the fields of foreign and security affairs, immigration, climate and energy, and economy. The latter will put particular focus on the Euro regularities.

We will engage in discussions about foreign policy cases like Turkey and Syria, but also relate to the new US administration in terms of the traditional transatlantic partnership. Another policy scheme is the impact of previous (and future?) mass migration into Europe. Furthermore, we address Europe's response strategy to tackle the bank and state crisis in face of its threat to the social standards in Europe (e.g. Greece). We will also discuss possible findings from the aftermath of the so-called EURO and state crisis.

Moreover, we will review the European climate and energy policy and study consequences of the climate agreement from Paris for the EU member states particularly after the US withdrawal. We will also deal with the question of Europe's energy sovereignty in contrast to market demands.

Having determined the factors contributing to the deepening of the EU through its institutions, we will discuss the criteria that have influence over the willingness of different countries to join (Ukraine, Georgia, possibly Turkey – at least in the past) but also to leave (e.g. BREXIT) the EU. Finally, we will review the EU enlargement process and assume prospects for its future development. What are challenges now and in the future? Is the EU still a role model? If yes, why? If not, why is it not anymore?

### **Student profile**

Students from different countries 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 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**

- regular attendance and active participation in the seminar's discussions and discussions with invited or visited experts
- mid-term test of 45 minutes: a written test with multiple and simple choice questions
- oral presentation of a certain subject (graded): 10 minutes presentation with PowerPoint plus 5-10 minutes for questions, hypotheses, and discussion
- final exam of 90 minutes: the exam consists of some multiple and simple choice questions (30%); its major focus (70%) are open questions related to discussions and analyses that we have had or conducted throughout the seminar.

**Grading**

Participation: 20%  
 Mid-term test: 10%  
 Presentation: 30%  
 Final Test: 40%

**Reading**

A course reader will be provided.

**Course schedule**

Date	Program*
Tuesday, June 5, 2018	<p><b>History of the European integration</b>                      What factors determined the institutional structure of the European Communities and its development into the European Union?</p>
Friday, June 8, 2018	<p><b>European institutions and decision-making</b>                      Who is deciding: Why, how and when?                      What are the changes introduced by the Lisbon Treaty?</p>
Tuesday, June 12, 2018	<p><b>Enlargement: To join or not to join?</b>                      The impact of the EU on the new EU member countries and candidate countries.</p> <p>Visit to an embassy of a candidate country*</p>
Friday, June 15, 2018	<p><b>European environmental policy</b>                      How successful is EU's struggle against air, soil, water and noise pollution?</p> <p>Field trip to the German ministry of the environment*</p>
Tuesday, June 19, 2018	<p><b>European security policy</b>                      What are current strategies of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)?</p>

	<p>One of the challenges that Europe faces in recent time is mass immigration. How was and is Europe coping with this challenge as political idea(l)s clash in discussions about the 'Fortress Europe' and European solidarity?</p> <p><b>Mid-term test (45 minutes)</b></p>
Friday, June 22, 2018	<p><b>European climate policy</b> From a leader to a laggard? Participation in the global climate negotiations. Burden sharing or Effort sharing? The impact of the EU10.</p> <p>Visit from a representative of an ENGO*</p>
Tuesday, June 26, 2018	<p><b>European Energy Policy</b> Moving towards renewable energy-based power sector or staying behind?</p> <p>Field trip to a Lobbying Agency*</p>
Friday, June 29, 2018	<p><b>European Economic Crisis Part I</b> How did we get here?</p>
Tuesday, July 3, 2018	<p><b>European Economic Crisis Part II</b> How do we move forward?</p>
Friday, July 6, 2018	<p><b>European foreign policy</b> Global role of the European Union: relations with neighboring states, Russia, United States, China, and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP).</p>
Tuesday, July 10, 2018	<p><b>Europe 2020 and 2030</b> Two programs for the future of Europe: still achievable?</p> <p>Students' presentations</p>
Friday, July 13, 2018	<p><b>Final Test (90 minutes)</b></p> <p>Remaining students' presentations</p> <p>FUBiS Farewell Ceremony</p>

\*Field trips may be subject to change depending on the availability of appointments and speakers. On field trip days, adaptation of class times is possible.