Challenges and Perspectives of the European Integration

(IBU2131)

Syllabus

Winter semester 2019/20

Weekly hours: 4 hours (45 minutes)
ECTS-Credits: 5
Workload: 150 hours
Time: Tuesday, Noon – 3.30 pm (12.00 – 15.30 Uhr)
Begin: October 1 (Tuesday, information session and introduction)
Level: advanced
Prerequisites: microeconomics and macroeconomics

Topics

1. Eight questions about Europe
   a. What is Europe?
   b. Who belongs to the EU?
   c. How far have the integration steps been implemented so far?
   d. Which integration steps were fundamental?
   e. Is there an optimal integration depth?
   f. Is there an optimal integration speed?
   g. How should the EU design its economic foreign relations?
   h. What freedoms does the EU and their citizens need?

2. Theories and strategies of European Integration
   a. Global versus regional integration
   b. Integration theory: From the Free Trade Area to Monetary Union
   c. Expanding or deepening the EU
   d. Market driven integration versus political integration

3. Where does Europe come from: The historical perspective
   a. Lessons from failed integration after WW I
   b. Successful integration after WW II: The Marshall Plan
   c. The European Coal and Steel Community and Jean Monnet
4. Institutions and bodies of the EU
   a. Institutional analysis (voting principles, competencies, authorities)
   b. EU budget
   c. EU legislative procedures
   d. Special institutions
   e. European institutions
   f. Consultative Bodies
   g. Financial institutions

5. Monetary Integration in Europe
   a. History of monetary integration: From the Werner Plan to the ECB
   b. The European Monetary System
   c. The development of the European Central Bank
   d. Institutions of the ECB
   e. Instruments and strategies of the ECB

6. The road to a European Constitution
   a. How much regulation and harmonization does the EU need?
   b. From the conference of Laeken to the Treaty of Lisbon
   c. Key elements of the Lisbon Treaty

7. Special fields of European integration
   a. The European integration in the aftermath of BREXIT
   b. European anti-Trust policy
   c. European agricultural policy (CAP)
   d. European Media Policy

Literature

- *Wentzel, Dirk* (2017): Reader in European Integration will be provided online.

Learning objectives:

- Students learn the most important economic perspectives of regional integration and trade theory to understand the European integration
- Students learn about the relevant economic and political steps from the foundation of the European Community 1957 to the introduction of the Euro and latest economic-political developments 2019 and the financial crisis.
- Students analyze the European Institutions (Parliament, Commission, Council, Council of the EU, Court of Justice)
- Students analyze the impact of the Treaty of Lisbon
- Students analyze the EU budget and financial relations among member states
### Course contributions to bachelor programs’ common learning goals:

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<tr>
<th>Learning Objective / Outcome</th>
<th>Contributions to learning objectives</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expert knowledge</strong></td>
<td>1.1 … in Business Administration.</td>
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<td>1.2 … in Economics.</td>
<td>Applying economic knowledge on the European markets and institutions.</td>
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<td>1.3 … in Business Law.</td>
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<td>1.4 … in Quantitative Methods.</td>
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<td><strong>Use of information technology</strong></td>
<td>2.1 Students demonstrate proficiency in using computer programs to solve business problems.</td>
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<td>2.2 Students are able to use information systems effectively in real world business settings.</td>
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<td><strong>Critical thinking and analytical competence</strong></td>
<td>3. Students are able to apply analytical and critical thinking skills to complex problems.</td>
<td>Analyzing the complexity of EU problems and regulation, developing and independent and differentiated line of argumentation</td>
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<td>Discussion in class, written examination</td>
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<td><strong>Ethical awareness</strong></td>
<td>4. Students are able to develop business ethics strategies and apply them to typical business decision-making problems.</td>
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<td><strong>Communication skills</strong></td>
<td>5.1 Students are able to express complex problems effectively in writing</td>
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<td>5.2 Students demonstrate their oral communication skills in presentations and papers.</td>
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<td><strong>Capacity for teamwork</strong></td>
<td>6. Students show that they are able to work successfully in a team by performing practical tasks.</td>
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Organization of the course:
IBU 2131 is a traditional lecture class. Based on a clear table of content, students learn week by week the foundations of EU integration. Even though the group size is usually large, an interactive approach will be pursued. References to current events (financial crisis, BREXIT) are part of every single lecture.

Grade:
The grade is based on a written examination (60 minutes) at the end of class.

Availability of the Professor:
Prof. Dr. Wentzel is available during office hours (Monday 1.45 pm – 3.15 pm), after class and by appointment.

I care about your learning and your success. Therefore, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions with your learning or with the course. I strictly follow an open door policy!

Email: dirk.wentzel@hs-pforzheim.de
Phone: 07231-286293
Room: W4.1.05

Schedule:

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>First meeting, discussion of materials, websites, lecture list, introduction</td>
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<td>October 8</td>
<td>Regular class</td>
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<td>October 15</td>
<td>No Class (Professor Wentzel is travelling)</td>
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<td>October 22</td>
<td>Regular classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 19</td>
<td>No class (Wyoming Week)</td>
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<td>November 26</td>
<td>Regular classes</td>
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<td>December 4</td>
<td>Field trip to the European Central Bank and the Deutsche Bundesbank, Frankfurt Visit of the Frankfurt Christkindle Market</td>
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<td>December 10</td>
<td>Examination work shop, class evaluation</td>
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<td>December 17</td>
<td>Written examination supervised by Professor Wentzel</td>
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