

Syllabus
IBU5051E Challenges and Perspectives of the European Union
Prof. Dr. habil. Dirk Wentzel
Winter Semester 2023/24

Level	Bachelor
ECTS-Credits	6
Students Contact Hours	4 per week (45 minutes) (fast track)
Workload	150 hours, 50 hours within class and 100 hours for self-study Visit to the European Central Bank in Frankfurt (December 6), field trip to Munich (November 22)
Prerequisites	Microeconomics and Macroeconomics
Time	Tuesday, 12.00 – 15.15 pm
Room	W1.3.06
Start date	October 10, 2023
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. habil. Dirk Wentzel Jean Monnet Chair in European Economic Integration Office W4.1.05 Virtual Office (Zoom calls possible) Office Hours Monday, 12 – 1.30 pm Phone 07231-286293 Email dirk.wentzel@hs-pforzheim.de

Short Description

This class is addressing international students from our partner universities and local German students with an international perspective who want to study the economic and political development of the European Union, the European Currency Union (Euro zone) and the Common European Market. The class provides an introduction about the history and the members of the EU and deepens the knowledge about the economic theory of integration and trade. The core of this class provides a deep analysis of the European institutions (European Council, Council of the EU, Commission, EU-Parliament) and of the European Central Bank (European Monetary System, Maastricht Treaty and Maastricht Criteria, stability of the Euro).

The class is always addressing current issues of the EU (Economic, financial and fiscal impact of the Corona pandemic, refugee crisis, financial crisis, Brexit, trade relations with major powers like the US or China). Of course we will discuss also the multi-dimensional effects of the Russian war against the Ukraine for the European Union (refugees, energy prices, economic sanctions).

Outline of the Course

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?
3. Market driven integration versus political integration
 - a. Where does Europe come from: The historical perspective
 - 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. The European Central Bank and Monetary Integration
 - a. The European Monetary System
 - b. The Road to the EURO
 - c. The European Central Bank: Policy and Instruments
 - d. The Financial Crisis: Is it over yet?
 - e. The Evolution of a European Stability Culture
6. Hot topics of EU integration 2022/23
 - a. Economic, fiscal and financial impact of the Corona Pandemic
 - b. Refugee crisis
 - c. Development of BREXIT
 - d. New trade agreements (CETA, RCEP)
 - e. The Digital Single Market Initiative (DSM)
 - f. War in the Ukraine

Course Intended Learning Outcomes and their Contribution to Program Intended Learning Outcomes / Program Goals

Program Intended Learning Outcomes	Course Intended Learning Outcomes	Assessment Method
After completion of the program the students will be able...	After completion of the course the students will be able...	Written Exam
		100%
		Individual Performance
1 Expert Knowledge		
1.1 ...to demonstrate their distinguished and sound competencies about the political and economic structure of the European Union.	...to apply trade and integration theory of the EU onto current issues and challenges..	X
1.2 ...to demonstrate their distinguished and sound competencies in Economics, trade policy and European monetary policy.	...to explain core terms and concepts of the EU .	X X
2 Use of Information Technology		
3 Critical Thinking and Analytical Competence		
3.1 ...to implement adequate methods in a competent manner and to apply them to complex problems.	... to understand the inner conflicts and tensions of the EU between economic efficiency and success and political solidarity and cooperation.	X
3.2		
4 Ethical Awareness		
...to understand the EU's role in promoting and developing social and ecological standards in the largest common market worldwide.	...to explain and discuss different economic policy positions on the topics of sustainable economic development and concepts of justice on the basis of their knowledge of market failure, state failure and the state regulatory framework.	X
5 Communication and Collaboration Skills		
6 Internationalization		
6.2 ...to articulate themselves in a professional manner about the European Union, the European Common Market and the Currency Union.	... to deal with topics in European economic integration in English and communicate and work with an international student body during classes and field trips.	X

Teaching and Learning Approach

Usually, this class is taught in an interactive approach with lecture elements, discussions, case studies (like the Airbus A 380 case) and a field trip, either to the EU Parliament in Strasbourg or to the European Central Bank in Frankfurt.

A visit to the European Central Bank is scheduled for December 6, 2023. Another field trip is scheduled to the Allianz Arena in Munich for November 22. Details will be provided by the ISP team.

The final assessment will be based on a written examination (60 minutes test). The class ends before Christmas.

Literature and Course Materials

- *De Grauwe, Paul* (latest edition): Economics of Monetary Union, Oxford.
- *El-Agraa, Ali M.* (latest edition): The European Union, Economics and Policies, Cambridge.
- *European Central Bank* (2017): The ECB, Frankfurt.
- *Hansen, Damsgard* (2001): European Economic History – From Mercantilism to Maastricht and Beyond, Copenhagen Business School Press.
- *Jackson, Robert and Georg Sorensen* (2003): International Relations, Theories and Approaches, Oxford University Press.
- *Moussis, Nicholas* (2008): Access to European Union law, economics, policies, European Study Service.
- *Neal, Larry* (latest edition): The Economics of Europe and the European Union, Cambridge.
- **Wentzel, Dirk (2023): Updated reader in European Integration will be provided online.**
- *Wentzel, Dirk* (2006) (Hrsg.): Europäische Integration – Ordnungspolitische Chancen und Defizite, Schriften zu Ordnungsfragen der Wirtschaft, Band 82, Stuttgart, Jena, New York, 272 Seiten

Further materials from the European Union will be provided in class!

Assessment

The final assessment is based on a written examination (60 minutes) and a scientific paper.

Schedule

October 10, 2023	First meeting, discussion of materials, websites, lecture list, introduction and motivation
October 17 until December 12	Regular class
December 6	Visit to the European Central Bank
December 12, 2023	Examination workshop, class evaluation
December 13, 2022	Early examination (written test)

Availability of the Professor

Prof. Wentzel is available during his office hours (Monday 12.00 – 1.30 pm), after class and by appointment. **Prof. Wentzel is also available by appointment through digital communications channels (Zoom).**

Academic Integrity and Student Responsibility

I fully trust my students concerning academic integrity and standards. This class is based on mutual trust and multi-cultural respect.

Rules of Conduct for Online Teaching (if necessary)

In case of online classes: If the technical requirement and the internet bandwidth allow, I prefer my students to use both audio and video. I appreciate to see the full first and last name. I always keep the chat function open and respond directly.

If students are in completely different time zones (US or Asia), I respect if they might have special challenges and reduce their videos.

[Link to the Rules of Conduct for Online Teaching](#)

Additional Information

We are have scheduled a field trip to Munich (November 22) to visit the Allianz Arena as part of the seminar in sport economics. Details will be provided by the ISP team at the beginning of semester. The field trip to the European Central Bank in Frankfurt on December 6th is already confirmed.