Challenges and Perspectives of the European Integration

(IBU2131)

Syllabus
Summer semester 2020

Weekly hours: 4 hours (45 minutes)
ECTS-Credits: 5
Workload: 150 hours
Time: Monday, 3.30 – 6.45 pm (W2.3.15)
Begin: March 16
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. Successful integration after WW II: The Marshall Plan
   b. 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 2020
   a. Refugee crisis
   b. Development of BREXIT and Donald Trump
   c. The Digital Single Market Initiative (DSM)

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 2018.
- Students analyze the European Institutions (Parliament, Commission, 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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<thead>
<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>
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<tr>
<td>1.1 ... in Business Administration.</td>
<td>Students show that they have sound basic knowledge ...</td>
<td>Case studies, class room discussions, written examination</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>
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<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>Students are able to apply analytical and critical thinking skills to complex problems.</td>
<td>Discussion in class, written examination</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Analyzing the complexity of EU problems and regulation, developing and independent and differentiated line of argumentation</td>
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<td><strong>Ethical awareness</strong></td>
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4. Students are able to develop business ethics strategies and apply them to typical business decision-making problems.

5.1 Communication skills
Students are able to express complex problems effectively in writing.

5.2 Students demonstrate their oral communication skills in presentations and papers.

6. Capacity for teamwork
Students show that they are able to work successfully in a team by performing practical tasks.

Organization of the course:
SSC 1103 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, refugee crisis) 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 (Tuesday, 1.45 pm - 3.15 pm), after class and by appointment.
Email: dirk.wentzel@hs-pforzheim.de
Phone: 07231-286293
Office: W4.1.05
Website: http://europa.hs-pforzheim.de

Schedule:
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 16, 2020</td>
<td>First meeting, discussion of materials, websites, lecture list, introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 23 until June 22, 2020</td>
<td>Regular class</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>No class because of Easter vacation</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>European Day: “Europe and friends” (it is a Wednesday!)</td>
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<td>TBA (!!!)</td>
<td>Field trip to Frankfurt: Money Museum and European Central Bank (ECB)</td>
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<td>June 1, 2020</td>
<td>No class because of Pentecost vacation</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 8, 2020</td>
<td>No class (compensation for the European Day workload)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 15, 2020</td>
<td>Examination workshop, evaluation, feedback</td>
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<td>June 22, 2020</td>
<td>Early examination</td>
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