



The Political Economy of European Integration

Summer: 2016

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All the material for the course can be found at:

<http://rosellanicolini.com/summerpolitical.htm>

Course outline

This course will introduce students to the main issues of social, economics and politics of European integration by using an economic approach. The course addresses key economic questions that arise from the process of integration.

This course draws on a core textbook, articles from journals and other documents.

Student will be oriented in the most up to date policy discussion about European integration.

By the end, students will be able to apply and relate conceptual and theoretical knowledge underpinning the course of the economic and political process of European integration,

There are no particular technical requirements for this course. However, student should have passed a course as Principles of economics and manage a few basic concepts of microeconomics and macroeconomics. Basic skill in Excel and Word packages is strongly recommended.

Programme

a) Institutions:

1. Geography & History of European Union (EU).
2. Organization and Role of European Institutions.

b) Economics:

1. Trade policies: tariffs and import protection. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).
2. Implications to Foreign Businesses: state aid, competition, mergers and antitrust policies.
Case study: Microsoft.
3. European imbalances: core-periphery structure. The EU regional policies
4. The challenge of the EU Integration: Growth and Stability Pact, Sovereign Debt and Financial market development. The EURO.

c) Social issues:

1. EU Labor Market Rigidity: Labor integration; Pensions Programs and Migration

References

Textbooks:

Baldwin, R. and Ch. Wyplosz (2011 o 2015): *Economics of European Integration*, 4th or 5th Edition, Mc Graw Hill.

Artis, M. and F. Nixson (Ed.) (2007): *The Economics of the European Union*, Oxford University Press

Basic textbooks for economic tools:

Burda, M. and Ch. Wyplosz (2005): *Macroeconomics: A European Text*, Oxford University Press.

Feenstra, R. and A.Taylor (2008): *International Economics*, Worth Publisher.

Krugman, P. and M. Obstfeld (any edition): *International Economics: Theory and Policy*, Addison Wesley.

Other documents:

Daly, M. (2006): "EU Social Policy after Lisbon", *Journal of Common Market Studies*, vol.44(3), pp.461-481

* Brugel (2008): "*Coming of age: report on the Euro Area*"

* ECB (2004): "*The monetary policy of the ECB*"

* These documents can be download from <http://idea.uab.es/~rnicolini/political.htm>

Other hand-outs will be given, if necessary.

Teaching & Assessment

Schedule of the course:

From July 11th to July 20th 2016 (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday).

Time: see calendar

Place: TBA

The assessment will be based on:

60% Final exam (on July 20th)

20% Problem set

15% Group work in class

5% Participation

During the sessions, students are required to attend classes and participate to the activities. All the activities are mandatory and will be part of the final grade. A copy of the slides presented in class can be downloaded from the course website.

In addition, each student will be also required to:

- a) Turn in (individually) a list of problems on paper support. Deadline: Monday July 18th 2016

b) Coordinate with other students and create a research group of max 4 members. The group will be asked for studying a selected topic on European Integration in class and provide a short presentation. This activity will take place on Tuesday July 19th 2016. A general discussion will follow.

c) Pass a final multiple-choice type exam on July 20th 2016 about the content of the whole course.

Preliminary Schedule

Day	Time	Topic
July 11 th 2016	9:00 - 11:00	Geography and History of the European Union (EU) - Video- Institutions and Budget of the EU
	11:10 - 13:00	Implications to Foreign Businesses: state aid, competition etc.
July 12 th 2016	9:00 -11:00	European Imbalances: the core and periphery structure
	11:10 -13:00	The Challenges of the European Integration: the EURO - Video-
July 13 th 2016	14.30-16:30	EU labour market rigidity: labor integration; pensions and migration - Video- Welfare system
	16:40- 18:30	
July 18 th 2016	9:00-11:00	Review problem set and introduction of the group activity
July 19 th 2016	9:00-11:00	Group activity in class
	11:10- 13:00	
July 20 th 2016	9:00-11:00	Final exam