

# PO238-30 Themes in European Integration

**21/22**

**Department**

Politics & International Studies

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 2

**Module leader**

Ian Lovering

**Credit value**

30

**Module duration**

22 weeks

**Assessment**

50% coursework, 50% exam

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

---

## Description

### Introductory description

The main purpose of the module is to explore the political and economic dimensions of European integration. We will be asking many questions about the nature of European integration, and addressing contemporary problems faced by the European Union (EU) in a thematic way. Issues to be covered range from the history of the European integration project, the role of the EU institutions, theories of European integration, EU policies (including the Eurozone crisis and the migration crisis), enlargement, to the main challenges the Union faces today such as the democratic deficit, the failed EU referendums, and the Brexit.

What kind of polity is the EU? How is the EU transforming the political systems of its 28 component member states? Why and how does the EU accept new member states? How does the EU project itself and influence the global environment? To what extent can the EU be considered an effective international actor? Can the EU be democratic? Should we be concerned if it isn't? What are the dynamics behind referendums on EU-related issues? Last but not least, why did the British public vote to leave the European Union?

The course will end with a simulation, of an EU Council summit among member states and the EU Commission. The summit will deal with urgent questions such as the migrant crisis, the 'Brexit', and two-speed Europe.

## **Module aims**

The module aims to:

- develop an understanding of the origins and developments of the EU
- explore the main theoretical approaches to European integration
- offer an understanding of the Treaty and institutional development of the EU
- analyse key policy dilemmas and issues facing the EU
- discuss the role of the EU as an actor in world politics
- assess the contemporary debates about the future of European integration

## **Outline syllabus**

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

### **TERM1**

Week 1 Introduction

Week 2 Reconstructing 'Europe': Motives for Integration

Week 3 The Evolution of the EU: Key Moments

Week 4 The European Institutions

Week 5 The Activism of the European Court of Justice

Week 6 Reading Week

Week 7 A Toolkit for Understanding the EU: Grand Theories of European Integration

Week 8 Member States in Processes of Europeanisation and Multi-Level Governance

Week 9 The Euro: Monetary Politics and European Integration

Week 10 Europe of the Regions: Cohesion and Sub-National Activism

### **TERM2**

Week 1 Fortress Europe: Immigration and Asylum Policies

Week 2 The EU as a Global and Military Actor

Week 3 Enlargement: The EU and Turkey

Week 4 Legitimising European Integration: Democratic Deficit

Week 5 Euroscepticism and EU Referendums: The European Constitution and the Lisbon Treaty

Week 6 Reading Week

Week 7 Brexit and Future of European Integration

Week 8 Simulation

Week 9 Simulation

Week 10 Evaluating European Integration Theory in 2019

## **Learning outcomes**

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- critically analyse, both orally and in writing, the current issues facing the EU in important policy areas

- demonstrate an appreciation of the historical context of European integration and the significance of the EU
- critically discuss the characteristics of the EU's governance framework in relation to the key themes covered
- assess the strengths and weaknesses of the key theoretical debates governing the nature of European integration and the EU as a global actor

### **Indicative reading list**

Bache, I. George, S. & Bulmer, S. Politics in the European Union, 3rd edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Bomberg, E., Peterson, J. and Stubb, A. (eds), The European Union: How Does it Work?, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2nd edition, 2008

Cini, M & Borragan, N.P-S. (eds.), European Union Politics, 3rd edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010

Dedman, M., The Origins and Development of the European Union 1945-2008 - A History of European Integration, 2nd edition, London: Routledge, 2010.

Jorgensen, K.E. Pollack, M. & Rosamond, B. Handbook of European Union Politics, London: Sage, 2007.

Hill, C. and Smith, M. (eds), International Relations and the European Union, 2nd edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.

McCormick, J. (eds.), Understanding the European Union, 4th edition, New York: Palgrave, 2008.

Eilstrup-Sangiovanni, M. (ed.), Debates on European Integration: a reader, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006.

Nugent N., The Government and Politics of the European Union, 7th edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010

Rosamond, B., Theories of European Integration, Basingstoke: Macmillan, 2000.

Wallace, H., Pollack, A.M. & Young, R.A. (eds.), Policy-Making in the European Union, 6th edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Wiener, A. & Diez, T., European Integration Theory, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2nd edition, 2009.

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

### **Research element**

The students write a research essay in this module.

### **International**

The topics covered by the module are all international in scope.

### **Subject specific skills**

Theoretical and analytical skills in understanding the process of European integration

### **Transferable skills**

Communication skills  
Lateral thinking skills  
Skills in the distillation and application of complex information and ideas  
Critical thinking  
Analytical skills  
Independent research skills  
Problem solving  
Time management  
Skills in academic practice  
Awareness of, and sensitivity to, diversity  
Decision making  
Educational self-awareness skills

---

## Study

### Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	22 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Private study	260 hours (87%)
Total	300 hours

### Private study description

TBC

## Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

---

## Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

### Assessment group C1

	Weighting	Study time
3000 Word Essay	50%	

	Weighting	Study time
Assessed Essay		
Online Examination	50%	
1.5 hour unseen examination of two questions		

---

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

## Feedback on assessment

PAIS Assessed essay Essay feedback form (Tabula submission) \r\nOral Feedback

[Past exam papers for PO238](#)

---

## Availability

### Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 2 of UPOA-M100 Undergraduate Politics

This module is Optional for:

- UECA-3 Undergraduate Economics 3 Year Variants
  - Year 2 of L100 Economics
  - Year 2 of L100 Economics
  - Year 2 of L100 Economics
- UECA-4 Undergraduate Economics 4 Year Variants
  - Year 2 of LM1H Economics, Politics & International Studies with Study Abroad
  - Year 2 of LM1H Economics, Politics & International Studies with Study Abroad
- UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
  - Year 2 of LM1D Economics, Politics and International Studies
  - Year 2 of LM1D Economics, Politics and International Studies
- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
  - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
  - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
  - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
- Year 2 of UPOA-M100 Undergraduate Politics
- UPOA-M16A Undergraduate Politics and International Studies
  - Year 2 of M16A Politics and International Studies
  - Year 2 of M16A Politics and International Studies
  - Year 2 of M16A Politics and International Studies

- Year 2 of UPOA-M169 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese (3 year)
- Year 2 of UPOA-M162 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Quantitative Methods

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 2 of UPOA-M168 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese
- Year 2 of UPOA-ML13 Undergraduate Politics and Sociology
- UPOA-M163 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and French
  - Year 2 of M163 Politics, International Studies and French
  - Year 3 of M163 Politics, International Studies and French
- UPOA-M164 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German
  - Year 2 of M164 Politics, International Studies and German
  - Year 3 of M164 Politics, International Studies and German
- UPOA-M166 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies
  - Year 2 of M166 Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies
  - Year 3 of M166 Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies
- UPOA-M165 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Italian
  - Year 2 of M165 Politics, International Studies and Italian
  - Year 3 of M165 Politics, International Studies and Italian

This module is Option list C for:

- UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
  - Year 2 of VM11 History and Politics
  - Year 2 of VM11 History and Politics
  - Year 2 of VM11 History and Politics

This module is Option list E for:

- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
  - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
  - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law