

PO238-30 Themes in European Integration

26/27

Department

Politics & International Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader

Ozlem Atikcan

Credit value

30

Module duration

22 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

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 (such as migration and asylum or enlargement), to the main challenges the Union faces today such as the democratic deficit, the failed EU referendums, and Brexit.

What kind of polity is the EU? How is the EU transforming the political systems of its 27 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 include a simulation of a policy making scenario within the European Union. Topics can include any of the policy sectors discussed in the module. Thereby, the simulation will allow students to apply what you have learned throughout the module.

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.

The module will begin with a historical overview of the European integration project. It will then provide students with an overview of key institutions in the European Union, before discussing key theoretical approaches to European integration. After this foundational part of the module, students will be able to apply this knowledge to discuss various policy sectors and recent challenges of European integration. This includes topics such as the Euro, immigration and asylum policies, the EU as a global and military actor, enlargement, but also challenges including Brexit, Euroscepticism and the democratic deficit.

Learning outcomes

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

- critically analyse 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

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

Research element

The students write one research essay and one research policy paper in this module.

International

The topics covered by the module are all international in scope. The module typically benefits from international exchange students.

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 A

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
2000 Word Essay	50%		Yes (extension)
Assessed Essay on the historical development of the European integration process, key institutions, and theories that help us understand European integration.			

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Policy Paper	50%		Yes (extension)
This will be a policy-angled research paper. The essay will engage with policy issues within the European Union within a research framework.			

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

PAIS Assessed essay Essay feedback form (Tabula submission) and Oral Feedback

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 2 of UPOA-M100 Undergraduate Politics
- Year 2 of UPOA-M164 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German

This module is Optional for:

- Year 2 of UECA-3 Undergraduate Economics 3 Year Variants
- Year 2 of UECA-4 Undergraduate Economics 4 Year Variants
- Year 2 of UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
- Year 2 of UPOA-M16A Undergraduate 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 Unusual option for:

- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
 - Year 2 of V7MR Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite with Economics Major)
 - Year 2 of V7MP Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite)
 - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
- Year 2 of UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 2 of UPHA-V5L2 Undergraduate Philosophy and Politics
- Year 2 of UPOA-M168 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese
- Year 2 of UPOA-M169 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese (3 year)
- 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:

- Year 2 of UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics

This module is Option list D for:

- Year 2 of UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
- Year 2 of UHIA-VM13 Undergraduate History and Politics (with a term in Venice)

This module is Option list E for:

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