

Identification	Subject (Code, title, credits)	Europe in World Politics 3KU /6ECTS credits
	Department	Political Science and Philosophy
	Level	Undergraduate
	Term	Autumn 2026
	Instructor	Anar ISKANDAROV
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	Classroom/hours	Ahmad Rajabli 33c
	Office hours	By appointment
Prerequisites	None	
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Elective	
Required textbooks and course materials	Core readings: • McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic • John McCormick, Understanding the European Union : a concise introduction, European Union Series, 2020 Supplementary readings: Supplementary materials come from a broad as well as a multi-disciplinary range of academic articles and official documents. Students will be provided with these materials either in electronic form or in hard copies. - Dinan, Desmond, Origins and Evolution of the European Union (The New European Union Series, Oxford University Press, 2006)	
Course outline	The course is designed for graduate students and focuses on Europe's role in shaping international relations. The course explores key aspects of transnational actors with an emphasis on the European Union's historical development and influence on global affairs.	
Course objectives	This course aims to explore the role of Europe in world politics, with a focus on the EU as a global actor. It examines the ongoing debate within the EU on further integration and analyses the potential impact of these discussions on the European Union's relations with external actors, including the South Caucasus.	
Learning outcomes	After the completion of the course, students should: • Analyze the role and influence of Europe in global politics.	

	• Evaluate key debates within the EU regarding integration, supranationalism, and institutional reform. • Understand and assess the historical and contemporary factors shaping European foreign policy and external relations. • Examine the mechanics of EU policy-making and its impact on regional partners, specifically in the South Caucasus neighborhood.		
Teaching methods	Lecture	x	
	Discussion	x	
	Case analysis	x	
Evaluation	Form	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm written exam	TBA	30
	Final written exam (based on 100% of the content)	TBA	40
	Short academic paper and presentation	19.09.26-05.12.26	15
	Participation	During the semester	5
	Group Discussion	During the semester	10
	Total		100
Policy	▪ Preparation for class The structure of this course makes your individual study and preparation outside the class extremely important. The lecture material will focus on the major points introduced in the text. Reading the assigned chapters and having some familiarity with them before class will greatly assist your understanding of the lecture. After the lecture, you should study your notes and work relevant problems from the end of the chapter and sample exam questions. ▪ Withdrawal (pass/fail) This course strictly follows grading policy of the School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences. Thus, a student is normally expected to achieve a mark of at least 65% to pass. In case of failure, he/she will be required to repeat the course the following term or year. ▪ Cheating/plagiarism Cheating or other plagiarism during the Quizzes, Mid-term and Final Examinations will lead to paper cancellation. In this case, the student will automatically get zero (0), without any considerations. ▪ AI Policy		

	This policy governs the responsible use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) in coursework and research. It applies to undergraduate students and academic researchers, ensuring transparency, integrity, and accountability. GAI may support learning and research by helping organize ideas, checking grammar, or assisting with planning. However, it must never replace original analysis, creativity, or independent thinking. All uses of GAI must be disclosed clearly in assignments, projects, theses, and publications. Example: “ChatGPT (OpenAI, 2025) was used for language editing. All ideas and conclusions are my own.” Students may use GAI only as a supportive tool, with a maximum of twenty-five percent of text-based assignments. Its use is strictly prohibited in exams, quizzes, and graded in-class assessments. Researchers may use GAI for structuring, editing, and idea generation, but not for writing entire papers, fabricating references, or producing false data. Accuracy must always be verified. Violations include hidden or unauthorized use, failure to disclose, plagiarism, or data falsification. Penalties may involve warnings, resubmission, grade reduction, or disciplinary action. Instructors and supervisors must specify permitted levels of GAI use in syllabi or research guidelines. GAI is allowed only as a supportive tool. Students remain fully responsible for the originality, accuracy, and integrity of their work. ▪ Presentation We appreciate an ability of students prepare a well-structured essay and present it effectively in class. The presentation should be: • Original research of the students. • Written according to the international standards with introduction, internal parts, conclusion, and used special literature. • Limited in size (10 -12 pages/Times New Roman - 12). • The accompanying presentation should be 15-20 minutes in length. • A list of potential presentation topics will be provided to you by lecturer. ▪ Group discussion Students’ activity during classes will be evaluated on the basis of their participation in discussions on various topics during the lesson. The instructor will make notes after each discussion and will evaluate students’ activities before the final exam. ▪ Professional behavior guidelines The students shall behave in the way to create favorable academic and professional environment during the class hours. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited.
Schedule	

Date/Day (subject to change if there a justified necessity)	Topics	Readings
19.09.26	What is the European Union? <i>Defining the EU; supranational governance vs. intergovernmentalism; unique characteristics of the EU in international relations.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 12–28.
26.09.26	The EU as a Political System <i>Applying political science concepts; system architecture; legislative, executive, and judicial dimensions of integration.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 29–46.
03.10.26	Who are the Europeans? <i>European identity, values, culture, public attitudes toward integration, and the concept of European citizenship.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 47–64.
10.10.26	Early Years of Integration <i>Post-WWII reconstruction; Schuman Declaration; creation of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and Treaties of Rome.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 65–70.
17.10.26	Early Years of Integration <i>Post-WWII reconstruction; Schuman Declaration; creation of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and Treaties of Rome.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 70–81.
24.10.26	Building the Community <i>Customs unions, early enlargements, launch of the Single European Act, and the move toward deeper economic ties.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 82–98.
31.10.26	From Community to Union <i>Maastricht Treaty; establishment of the European Union; introduction of the Euro; post-Cold War eastern enlargement.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 99–116
Midterm exam		
07.11.26	Crisis and Opportunity in the EU <i>Institutional challenges, euro crisis, migration pressures, Brexit, and</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 117–134.

	<i>systemic resilience in contemporary integration.</i>	
14.11.26	The Treaties of the EU <i>Constitutional and legal foundations of the EU; treaty evolution from Paris and Rome to Amsterdam, Nice, and Lisbon</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 135–152.
21.11.26	The EU Member States <i>Role of national governments; sovereignty vs. supranational authority; national interests and member state political dynamics.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 153–170.
28.11.26	EU Institutions and Governance <i>Composition and structure of the Commission; policy initiative; guardian of the treaties; external trade and regulatory diplomacy</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 173–190.
05.12.26	The EU Institutions and Governance <i>Intergovernmental decision-making; the Council of the European Union and Qualified Majority Voting; the European Council and strategic leadership in foreign policy.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 227–244.
12.12.26	The EU Institutions and Governance <i>Evolution of parliamentary power; European Parliament elections and transnational political groups; legislative co-decision and external oversight.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 211–226.
19.12.26	The EU as a Global Actor <i>Foreign affairs capabilities; Common Foreign and Security Policy; soft vs. hard power; international trade and regulatory influence.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 435–452.
26.12.26	The EU and the World <i>Multilateral diplomacy; engagement with international organizations; global partnerships and neighborhood policies.</i>	McCormick, J. (2026). European Union Politics (4th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 453–470.
Final exam		

Additional readings and assignments will be provided by the instructor for this course. If necessary, some minor modifications may be made to this syllabus by the instructor.