

Identification	Subject	PSIR 410– Political System and Foreign Policy of European Union - 3KU /6ECTS credits
	Department	Political Science and Philosophy
	Program	Undergraduate
	Term	Fall, 2024
	Instructor	Rahil Dadashli
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	Classroom/hours	11 Mehseti str. (Nefitshilar campus), On FRI
	Office hours	By appointment
Prerequisites	Consent of instructor	
Language	English	
Compulsory /Elective	Required	
Required textbooks and course materials	<p><i>Core textbooks: All materials will be provided.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usherwood, S., & Pinder, J. (2018). <i>The European Union: A very short introduction</i>. In Oxford University Press eBooks. https://doi.org/10.1093/actrade/9780198808855.001.0001 • Keukeleire, S., & Delreux, T. (2014). <i>The foreign policy of the European Union</i>. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-137-02576-0 • Cini, M. M. C., & Borrigan, N. P. (2017). <i>European Union Politics</i>. In Oxford University Press eBooks. https://doi.org/10.1093/hepl/9780198708933.001.0001 • <i>The Oxford Handbook of Populism</i>. (2017). In Oxford University Press eBooks. https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803560.001.0001 <p><i>Suggested readings:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gstöhl, S., & De Bièvre, D. (2018). <i>The trade policy of the European Union</i>. https://doi.org/10.1057/978-1-349-93583-3 	
Course outline	This course provides an in-depth examination of the European Union's political system and its foreign policy. The course explores the historical evolution, institutional structure, and decision-making processes within the EU. Additionally, it analyzes the EU's role in global affairs, its relationships with key regions and international organizations, and the challenges it faces in the current geopolitical landscape.	
Course objectives	This course allows students to identify political systems and foreign policy of the EU countries, examine the EU's diplomatic, economic, and strategic relationships with major powers like the United States, China, and Russia.	
Learning outcomes	<p>By the end of the semester, students will be able :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To understand the historical development and foundational treaties of the European Union. 2. To analyze the institutional structure and decision-making processes within the EU. 3. To explore the EU's foreign policy, including its external relations and diplomatic strategies. 4. To examine the EU's role in international organizations and global governance. 5. To assess the challenges and future directions of the EU's foreign policy. 	
	Lecture	X

Teaching methods	Group discussion		x
	Case analysis		x
	Others		
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	8 th week	30
	Attendance and Active Participation	During the semester	10
	Presentations	Will be set individually	10
	Book Reading	At the end of each term	10
	Quizzes	One in each term	10
	Final Exam	At the end of the course	30
	Total		100
Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for class <p>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. After each lesson for the next class all students are required to be well-prepared and answer the questions. The core reading materials are emphasized in <i>bold italic</i> scripts in respective places in the tentative schedule. The rest of the given materials are supplementary and are highly advised to read. If a student shows irresponsible manner and does not get prepared for the class for more than 2 successive lessons appropriate marks will be deducted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Withdrawal (pass/fail) <p>This course strictly follows grading policy of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Thus, a student is normally expected to achieve a mark of at least 60% to pass. In case of failure, he/she will be required to repeat the course the following term or year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheating/plagiarism <p>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 generated answers will not be tolerated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group discussion 		

For each class students are expected to digest the material and be well prepared for the discussion. Further reading and fresh ideas are welcomed. For their active participation in total, 10 points will be added to the final marks.

- Case Studies (Presentations)

Students will be assigned different topics. They will do mini research and present their findings in a Power Point slideshow. The deadline for this project is different for each student which will be assigned randomly based on draw and failure to meet this deadline will result in a score of "0" for this section. Further details will be shared with them during the class for "how to do". Technical requirements are as below for presentation:

Criteria	Share of points
Content	0-2
Organization and Structure	0-2
Clarity and Visuals	0-2
Overall Impact and Creativity	0-2
Use of Visual Aids (if applicable)	0-2
Total	0-10

Guideline for the presentation preparation:

1. Title Slide
2. Introduction (Briefly introduce yourself and your topic. State the purpose or main goal of the presentation. Provide an overview of what the audience can expect.
3. Agenda or Outline (Outline the main sections or topics you will cover in the presentation)
4. Main Content (Should be organized in logical way, divide your presentation into several sections or topics)
5. Conclusion (Summarize the main points of your presentation)
6. References and Sources (Include a slide with citations or sources if you've used external material)

- Exams

To assess students' preparedness in the course, both mid-term and final exams will be administered, with the specific dates determined by the dean's office. Typically, mid-term exams will commence around the midpoint of the course, while the final exam will be scheduled at the conclusion of the course. On the exam paper, students will encounter **7** potential questions, but they are only required to select and respond to **5** of them. Each chosen question in the mid-term holds a weight of **5** points (**Final-6 points**). The questions are open-ended, and the evaluation will consider the development of English language skills, comprehension of the question, and the organization of the answers, aiming to enhance these aspects during the assessment process.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book reading <p>Student will be assigned to read a selected geopolitics masterpiece during each term and at the end there will be all group involved debate and discussion. It should be noted that those books are different from core reading and suggested reading.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes <p>There will be quizzes during the semester each covering the material has been digested so far. Students will be asked to take multiple choice test which will weigh 5 point for each, in total 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional behavior guidelines <p>The students shall behave in a way to create a favorable academic and professional environment during the class hours. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited.</p>
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Tentative Schedule

Week	Date/Day (tentative)	Topics	Textbook/Assignments
1		Introduction to the European Union <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Historical Background: From the ECSC to the EU</i> • <i>Key Treaties: Rome, Maastricht, Lisbon</i> • <i>The EU's Enlargement Process</i> 	Usherwood, S., & Pinder, J. (2018). The European Union: A very short introduction. Chapter 2. How the EU was made.
2		The Institutional Framework of the EU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The European Commission</i> • <i>The European Parliament</i> • <i>The European Council and the Council of the European Union</i> • <i>The Court of Justice of the European Union</i> 	Usherwood, S., & Pinder, J. (2018). The European Union: A very short introduction. Chapter 3. How the EU is governed.
3		Decision-Making in the EU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Legislative Process</i> • <i>The Role of EU Agencies</i> • <i>The Impact of EU Law on Member States</i> 	Cini, M. M. C., & Borraran, N. P. (2017). <i>European Union Politics</i> . In Oxford University Press eBooks. https://doi.org/10.1093/hepl/9780198708933.001.0001 Chapter 13.
4		The Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Historical Development of CFSP</i> • <i>Key Institutions and Decision-Making in CFSP</i> • <i>The Role of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy</i> 	Cini, M. M. C., & Borraran, N. P. (2017). <i>European Union Politics</i> . In Oxford University Press eBooks. https://doi.org/10.1093/hepl/9780198708933.001.0001 Chapter 15.

			<i>Keukeleire, S., & Delreux, T. (2014). The foreign policy of the European Union. Chapter 7.</i>
5		The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objectives and Instruments of the ENP</i> • <i>Relations with Eastern and Southern Neighbours</i> 	<i>Keukeleire, S., & Delreux, T. (2014). The foreign policy of the European Union. Chapter 10.</i>
6		The Eastern Partnership (EaP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>EU member perspective</i> • <i>Euronest Parliamentary Assembly</i> 	<i>Eastern Partnership Revisited, The Stefan Batory Foundation.</i>
7		The EU and International Organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The EU and NATO</i> 	<i>European Union Institute for Security Studies (2019), EU and NATO, the essential partners</i>
8		Midterm week	
9		The EU's Relations with Major Powers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>EU-US Relations: Partnership and Rivalry</i> • <i>EU-China Relations: Economic Cooperation and Strategic Competition</i> • <i>EU-Russia Relations: From Partnership to Confrontation</i> 	<i>Casarini, N., & Musu, C. (2007). European foreign policy in an evolving international system. In Palgrave Macmillan UK eBooks. https://doi.org/10.1057/9780230593145 Pp.43-96</i>
		The EU's Role in Regional Conflicts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Balkans: From War to Stability</i> • <i>The Middle East Peace Process</i> • <i>The EU and the Syrian Conflict</i> 	<i>Casarini, N., & Musu, C. (2007). European foreign policy in an evolving international system. In Palgrave Macmillan UK eBooks. https://doi.org/10.1057/9780230593145 Pp.97-127</i>
11		The EU's Trade Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Common Commercial Policy</i> • <i>The EU and Free Trade Agreements</i> 	<i>Clifford Chance (2020). The EU trade process explained</i>
12		The EU and Global Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The EU's Approach to Multilateralism</i> • <i>The EU and Development Cooperation</i> • <i>The EU vs China</i> 	<i>Zhao Chen (2014), A comparative study in global governance models of the EU and China.</i>
13		Challenges to the EU's Foreign Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Rise of Populism and Euroscepticism</i> 	<i>The Oxford Handbook of Populism. (2017). In Oxford University Press eBooks. https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803560.001.0001 Chapter 13</i>
14		Current Events Analysis	<i>In this class students will use their accumulated knowledge from this course to have a analysis of actual issues of the EU.</i>

15		Presentations	<i>Student will present their projects</i>
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This syllabus is a guide for the course and any modifications to it will be announced in advance.