

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code / Title : HA4014 European Union

Pre-requisites : HA1002

No. of AUs. : 4

Contact Hours : 52

Course Aims

This course introduces the politics and policies of European integration. The European Union (EU), one of the most established international regional organisations in the world, has been an institution in the making for 60 years. The policies adopted at the supranational level now affect more than 500 million citizens of 28 countries; the bilateral and multilateral relationships that EU member states form are subject to the scrutiny of central institutions such as the European Commission, European Parliament, and the European Court of Justice, among others. By taking this course, you will learn about the historical motivations that led to the emergence of the European Union (and which alternative models were considered), the design and structure of European institutions (and how they have evolved over time), the core policy areas regulated at the EU level (and why some are outside the formal EU institutional framework), as well as theories that attempt to capture these complex and multilevel interactions.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Describe the origins and historical development of the European Union;
2. Describe and explain the roles of the European Council, Council of Ministers, European Commission, and the European Parliament in European integration;
3. Describe and explain the European policymaking processes in the areas of Justice and Home Affairs, External Relations, and the Europe of Knowledge;
4. Describe and explain the key theoretical models used to account for the European integration process before, during, and after the Crises;
5. Synthesise knowledge on the European Union and articulate them in a cogent and accessible way, both orally and in writing.

Course Content

- Week 1 – Introduction: European Union
- Week 2 – The origins and development of European integration
- Week 3 – The institutions (I): European Council and Council of Ministers
- Week 4 – The institutions (II): Commission and Parliament
- Week 5 – EU policies (I): Justice and Home Affairs
- Week 6 – EU policies (II): External Relations
- Week 7 – EU policies (III): Europe of Knowledge
- Week 8 – Crises (I): Narratives
- Week 9 – Crises (II): Refugees and migrants
- Week 10 – Crises (III): Brexit
- Week 11 – Theories of European integration
- Week 12 – Review week
- Week 13 – Verbal test

Course Assessment

Participation	: 20%
Critical response paper and presentation	: 20%
Discussant for critical response paper	: 10%
Extended research paper	: 30%
Verbal test	: 20%
Total	-----
	100%