The process of European integration is in a state of constant flux. This course analyses the driving forces explaining the advances and setbacks of that process. The economic cycle and the geopolitical scenario impose a challenge to the institutional architecture of the European Union (EU).

The course starts with an historical overview of European integration. The initial steps of the integration process show the tensions between the two models of cooperation: supranationalism and intergovernmentalism. The historical account addresses what factors made the federalist stance to prevail.

The historical evolution of the integration process also serves to get a better understanding of geopolitics in the European context. The fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Balkan crisis, and the Arab Spring represent some of the episodes affecting the pace of European integration.

The increasing heterogeneity between EU member states and the limited results on socioeconomic convergence are analysed when describing the institutional characteristics of the European Union. The EU institutions provide mechanisms to balance differences between EU countries and political actors. Among the institutional characteristics of the EU, the application of EU legislation in national contexts creates a multilevel system of governance. The role of different actors (i.e. national governments, regions, political parties, interest groups among others) will be explored.

The course also addresses the current unbalance between economic and political integration. In doing so, the sessions will cover diverse policy areas (monetary policy, fiscal policy, foreign affairs, migratory policy). The differences across EU countries in terms of welfare regimes and geopolitical interests will be decisive in explaining the EU role in each policy area.
Finally, the analysis of the accession of Spain to the EU constitutes a case study that will allow students to explore the advantages and challenges of the EU for its member states.

**Desired Outcomes**

- To develop a multidisciplinary approach to the EU process
- To explore EU from a comparative analysis perspective (comparison with other cooperation processes: ASEAN, NAFTA)
- To understand the impact of EU on national politics with a special focus on Spanish politics
- To get a better knowledge of multinational states in Western Europe
- To analyze the EU in relation to the globalization dilemma (international economic integration, nation-state autonomy and preservation of democracy)
- To develop analytical skills in order to address interrelated political questions: inequality, economic efficiency, economic growth, justice.
- To understand the strategies of national governments in the international arena.
- To explore the evolution of ideologies (Keynesianism, neoliberal paradigm, civic republicanism)

To compare differences and commonalities between European countries.

**Assessment Components**

1. **COURSE PAPER 1 (20%)**

EU Institutional design. This course paper is focused on the institutional system of the EU. The main goal is to critically review how the EU institutions work and influence the course of the European integration process.

Students will select one of the main EU institutions (European Commission, European Parliament, European Council, Council of the EU, European Central Bank).

2. **COURSE PAPER 2 (20%)**

EU policies. The second course paper is oriented to analyze the development of a policy area. The characteristics of policy making, the actors involved, the bargaining process, and future scenario analysis will be the aspects to be explored.

Further details about the extension and format will be announced well in advance.

3. **MIDTERM (20%)**

The midterm will consist of short questions and a text analysis on the topics scheduled for the first part of the course.

4. **FINAL EXAM (30%)**

The midterm will consist of short questions and a text analysis on the topics scheduled for the first part of the course. No cumulative.

5. **PARTICIPATION (10%)**
Class participation is oriented to test the reading comprehension and the critical assessment of the topics discussed during the sessions.

Class participation grade will be based on students’ oral presentations of selected topics (6 out of 10 points), and in-class discussions (4 out of 10 points).

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component will result in failure of the class, regardless of grades achieved in other assignments.

**Grading Policy**

**Statement on Provisions to students with disabilities**

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980 or see their website (http://www.nyu.edu/life/safety-health-andwellness/students-with-disabilities.html) for further information.

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in a class are encouraged to contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at (212) 998-4980 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. For more information, see Study Away and Disability.

**Attendance Policy**

Study abroad at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers is mandatory, and unexcused absences will be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student’s final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed. Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence. Repeated absences in a course may result in harsher penalties including failure.

Unexcused absences affect students’ grades: In classes meeting twice a week, a 1% deduction from the student’s final course grade occurs on the occasion of each unexcused absence.

Absences are excused only for illness, religious observance, and emergencies.

**Illness:** For a single absence, students may be required to provide a doctor’s note, at the discretion of the Assistant Directors of Academics. In the case of two consecutive
absences, students must provide a doctor’s note. Exams, quizzes, and presentations will not be made up without a doctor’s note.

**Religious Observance:** Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the holiday only and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. Students must notify their instructor and the Academic Office in writing via email one week in advance before being absent for this purpose. If exams, quizzes, and presentations are scheduled on a holiday a student will observe, the Assistant Directors, in coordination with the instructor, will reschedule them.

Please note: if you are unable to attend class, you are required to email your professors directly and notify them.

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**Late Submission of Work**

Students will lose one letter grade per day.

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**Plagiarism Policy**

At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community.

**Plagiarism:** presenting others’ work without adequate acknowledgement of its source, as though it were one’s own. Plagiarism is a form of fraud. We all stand on the shoulders of others, and we must give credit to the creators of the works that we incorporate into products that we call our own. Some examples of plagiarism:

- a sequence of words incorporated without quotation marks
- an unacknowledged passage paraphrased from another's work
- the use of ideas, sound recordings, computer data or images created by others as though it were one’s own
- submitting evaluations of group members’ work for an assigned group project which misrepresent the work that was performed by another group member
- altering or forging academic documents, including but not limited to admissions materials, academic records, grade reports, add/drop forms, course registration forms, etc.
- using language translation software.

For further information, students are encouraged to check [www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/academic-integrity-for-students-at-nyu.html](http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/academic-integrity-for-students-at-nyu.html)
- Alber, J. The European Social Model and the United States European Union Politics September 2006 7: 393-419,
- Schuman R. 1950. Schuman declaration of May, 9th.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

- Dyevre, A. 2011. The German Federal Constitutional Court and European Judicial Politics. West European Politics, 34(2)

INTRODUCTION. THE EUROPEAN UNION AT THE CROSSROAD.

This introductory class presents the on-going debate about European Union identity and the process toward federalism. The opposition to the creation of a “superstate” counterbalances the integrationist perspective.

The future of the European Union. The Economist. May 26Th 2012. (Pages 1-5)
Session 2  
February 1st  
THE ORIGIN. EL PLAN SHUMAN

This class identifies the main characterises of the original European Communities. The limited scope of the initial cooperation between European states allowed further enlargement and deeper integration.

- Fischer, J. 2000. From Confederacy to Federation: Thoughts on the Finality of European Integration. Speech at the Humboldt University in Berlin, 12 may 2000. (Pages 1-10).
- The Schuman Declaration- 9 May 1950. (Pages 1-2)

Session 3  
February 3rd  
INSTITUTIONS I. THE EU DUAL EXECUTIVE

This session provides a general overview of the European institutional system In doing so, this part of the course analyses the interplay of institutions representing different interests (national governments, regional governments, citizens, technical oriented institutions).


Session 4  
February 8th  
INSTITUTIONS II. LEGISLATIVE POLITICS

This session focusses on the European Parliament and the law-making processes.


Session 5  
February 10th  
INSTITUTIONS III. INSTITUTIONS. JUDICIARY

The activism of the European Court of Justice is crucial for understanding the integration process. The tensions between the national Constitutional Courts and the European Court aling with the most relevant rulings will be explored in this session.

Hix, y Hoyland. 2012 Chapter. 4. (Pages 75-100)

Recommended readings

**Session 6**
February 15th

**SPAIN AND THE EU. BARGAINING THE TREATY OF NICE**

This session explores the bargaining process between member states during treaty reforms. The voting formula, the design of institutions, and the number of representatives each member state obtains are the issues at stake during treaty reforms. This session address how states reach consensus over the reforms. In addition, the session covers the main characteristics of contemporary Spanish politics.


Recommended readings


**Session 7**
February 17th

**THE EU AS A FEDERAL STATE**

The EU is presented as a federal state. The distribution of political power between different levels (European, states and regions). The comparison with other federations (US, Canada, Switzerland) helps to fully describe the EU.


**Session 8**
February 22nd

1ST COURSE PAPER PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

**Session 9**
February 24th

1ST COURSE PAPER PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

**Session 10**

THE EU & OTHER FORMS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (NAFTA,
February 29th

ASEAN

The globalization process may be a factor explaining current process of regional integration. The EU is a type of regional cooperation. The outcomes and institutional characteristics of other types of regional cooperation will be covered.


Recommended readings

*Li, F. & Deng, J.* 2014. Varities of Regionalism: Comparison of Europe and South East Asia. *Asian Social Science* 10 (17). (Pages 1-10)

Session 11
March 2nd

POLITICAL PARTIES & EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

The European elections are characterized as “second-order” elections. The type of European organizations of political parties, the absence of European media, and the dominance of domestic politics are relevant factors in explaining voting behaviour and political participation in the EU.


Session 12
March 7th

MIDTERM EXAM

Session 13
March 9th

INTEREST GROUPS. THE TIES BETWEEN REGULATIONS AND PARTICULAR INTERESTS. THE BRUSSEL BUSINESS

This session explores the links between regulators and transnational organizations and interests groups. A critical re-assessment of the EU institutional framework will allow discussing the representativeness and accountability of the EU.

Hix & Hoyland. 2012. Cap. 7. (Pages 159-185)
CITIZENSHIP & PUBLIC OPINION. THE DEMOCRATIC DEFICIT IN THE EU.

European citizenship is a key element in the EU integration. The rights of European citizens are a differentiating element of the EU and other types of regional integration. Far from perfect, the capacity of citizens to make European institutions accountable has provoked the so-called democratic deficit of the EU.

- Hix & Hoyland. 2012 cap. 5. (Pages 105-129)

ECONOMIC FOUNDATIONS OF THE EU PROJECT.

The creation of the European common market is based on a process of deregularization and defragmentation of the national markets. This session provides critical assessments of the causes, motivations and consequences of the economic integration.


MONETARY POLICY. THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK.

This session explore the reasons for the creation of a common currency with no banking union. The role of the European Central Bank and its stance on the current economic scenario will be also analyzed.

Hix & Hoyland. 2012.Chapter. 10. (Pages 245-271)

FISCAL AND SOCIAL POLICIES.
March 30th

The EU presents an unbalance capacity in regulatory and redistributive policies. The involvement of European institutions in social and fiscal policies is limited in comparison to monetary or competition policies. This session analyses the consequences of such an asymmetry in the EU.


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Session 18

April 1st
(FRIDAY)

EUROPEAN WELFARE REGIMES. COMPARING EFFICIENCY AND EQUITY

This seminar focuses on the different types of welfare regimes across European countries. The session will compare the causes and outcomes of the different welfare types.

- Alber, J. The European Social Model and the United States European Union Politics September 2006 7: 393-419,

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Session 19

April 4th

AUSTERITY & the REFORMS of WELFARE

This session accounts for the positions of the EU and national governments on the most recent financial crisis.

- Blyth, M. 2013. Austerity. Chapter 1 (Pages 1-18; 229-244)

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Session 20

April 6th

THE EU AREA OF FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE

This session address the European legal framework of civil liberties and cooperation on judicial and security areas.

- Balzacq, T. and A. Hadfield. 2012. Differentiation and trust: Prüm and the institutional design of EU internal security. Cooperation and Conflict,
MIGRATORY POLICY. THE CASE OF SPAIN.

The migratory policy represents a challenge to the EU as far as there is a lack of consensus on how to face the migratory flows and the integration of immigrants in the country of destination.

- Malmström, C. 2014. EU migration policy – new realities, new opportunities. (Pages 64-68)

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY (CAP)

The Common Agricultural policy (CAP) represents a corner stone in the process of European integration. Despite of being initially oriented to production, the current transformation of the CAP is towards sustainability and economic development.


REGIONS & REGIONAL POLICY.

The “regional dimension” of the integration process is present when analysing economic integration and political governance.


EU EXTERNAL ACTION

Geopolitical analysis and the features of European policy making are crucial factors explaining EU involvement in international crisis. The session also provides an analysis of the EU priorities in external action.
THE ARAB SPRING & EASTERN EUROPE POLITICS

The economic-oriented process of integration undermines EU capabilities in facing international crisis and relations with third states. This session explores the position of the EU in the Mediterranean area and Eastern frontier.

- Horst, J. 2013. Euro-Mediterranean relations after the Arab Spring: persistence in times of change. London: Ashgate. Conclusion (Pages 225-240)
- Korosteleva. 2014. The Eastern Partnership Initiative (Pages 1-20)

THE EU AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE.

This session explores whether the EU represents a solution to the so-called globalization trilemma


FINAL EXAM. WEEK May 9th – 13th