

ERA321 - European Institutions

5 ECTS

Objectives – Course description

Are you interested in Europe ? This course EU Institutions is for you and is designed to present the different institutions and to explain the functioning of the EU in a truly international and congenial classroom in an interactive and critical way. This course invites you moreover to *(re)think* and *feel* those institutions. Be then part of the making of Europe !

The Objectives are :

- Knowing about the EU Institutions (facts & figures)
- Understanding the EU Institutions (explaining the functioning of the EU Institutions)
- Thinking and Feeling the EU Institutions (breaking news COVID-19/unemployment in the EU/BREXIT..., EU citizenship & political awareness, EU stress tests & Eurobarometer...)

Learning content

The Analytical Perspective is : understanding the EU Institutions by understanding the general background behind : avoid henceforward learning by heart EU dates, figures & statistics. The course is therefore divided into different chapters :

- Ch 1 Geographical aspects,
- Ch 2 Historical aspects,
- Ch 3 Institutional, legal and regulatory aspects,
- Ch 4 Economic & monetary aspects,
- Ch 5 Political aspects.

The different institutions are the consequences of those different aspects. Each chapter will be presented in a rather theoretical perspective (analytical perspective and hypotheses) and a more practical perspective (assignments, workshop and debates).

Learning outcome

The Learning Outcomes are : by the end of this module, the students will normally be able to :

- know more about the EU.
- Understand the EU but also...
- Think out of the EU box.
- Deliver decent academic presentations (research projects, PowerPoint).
- Work in groups with different mentalities and cultures.

- Discover new ways of doing business in Europe.
- Feel Europe in everyday life.

Methodology

The Methodological Approach is : different learning modules presented by the tutor in class will also include some online activities to be closer to the students. Various activities are then proposed : theoretical presentations, workshops, debates, role-play EU negotiations, LIVE forum, online group work, oral presentations, possible extra-academic activities (museums, EU Institution visits, conferences...), individual preparations at home and active class participation. Attendance is mandatory and can have an impact on the final grade.

Since the students are the future of Europe, an active participation will be required (attendance and assignments) to help the students THINK and FEEL Europe : each class, after a theoretical introduction, the students will respond in an interactive way taking advantage of this truly international environment. Films, press reviews, debates, conferences, visits of exhibitions on the EU may also contribute to make this class attractive.

Learning Material

The course book is « *EU Institutions : thinking & feeling Europe* » (Syllabus, given out in class by the tutor).

Evaluation

The students will be graded at the end of the term by an oral examination (100% final grade) and also in regard to a regular and active participation during the class.

100% End of second term assessment Oral test