Description
This course aims to familiarise students with the main institutions of the European Union and how they interact to form a political system. Special attention is devoted to the historical evolution of EU political and institutional system and to the present organization of the polity as defined by the Lisbon Treaty. In particular, the role and functioning of EU institutions, the procedures and the dynamics of decision-making and the policy implementation in the multilevel governance system are investigated.

On completion of the course, students will have acquired an advanced knowledge of the basic theories of European integration, of the main political processes and politicisation of the EU and they will be able to critically analyse and understand how the EU is functioning as a political and multilevel governance system.

Required work and form of assessment
40% Class participation; 60% Final exam.
Students are expected to read the assigned material timely and thoughtfully and be ready to discuss the content in class. As much as feasible, readings will be circulated as .pdf files by the coordinator.
Non-attendance must be justified, if possible in advance.

WED 24 October h 9.30-11 (Sala riunioni 2, II Floor)
Introductory meeting. Presentation of the course

- The institutionalization of integrated Europe till the Treaty of Lisbon. Alternative explanations of EU Politics (Sabrina Cavatorto)


WED 31 October h 9.30-11 (Sala riunioni 2, II Floor)

- The EU as a Political system and the multi-level governance (Sabrina Cavatorto)

Class discussion on the following topics (a list of questions will be distributed in advance): The EU between an IO and the nation-State; features of the European governance; the EU as a public policies regime and the role within it of regulation; the joint decision as an example of pooled sovereignty at the EU level; the democratic legitimacy issue.

WED 7 November h 9.30-11 (Sala riunioni 2, II Floor)
WED 14 November h 9.30-11 (Sala riunioni 2, II Floor)
  • The European Commission within the EU policy making and the inter-institutional relations
    (Sabrina Cavatorto)

Readings:
  partisan, national or sectoral?”, Journal of European Public Policy, Vol. 15, Issue 8, pp.1145-
  11631.

TUE 20 November h 15-16.30 (Sala Bonci Casuccini, Circolo giuridico)
MON 26 November h 14-16 (Room 3B)
  • The Council of the EU (Francesco Marangoni, University of Siena)

Readings:
  politics”, pp. 49-54; 61-68
- 26/11 papers about the decision making within the Council of the EU (to be selected by the
  instructor for students presentations)

WED 28 November h 9.30-11 (Sala riunioni 2, II Floor)
MON 3 December h 16.30-18 (Room 3B)
  • The European Economic and Monetary Union and the present financial crisis
    (Renzo Castelnuovo, University of Siena)

The building of a monetary and financial union in Europe. Some critical appraisals: from economic
integration to the creation of the euro; the single monetary policy and the ECB; some fundamental
critical issues in the governance of the European Monetary Union. The international economic and
financial crisis (2007 - ?): causes; stages and features; effects. The European response to the crisis:
from fire-fighting to reinvention of economic governance; Growth Pact, Fiscal Compact, ESM,
Financial Markets Union; a new institutional role for the European Central Bank?

Suggested readings: European Central Bank, (1998), 10th anniversary of the ECB, Monthly Bulletin,
special issue; (2009), The implementation of monetary policy since August 2007, Monthly Bulletin,
July; (2010), The ECB’s response to the financial crisis, Monthly Bulletin, October; (2010),
Approaches to monetary policy revisited. Lessons from the crisis; (2011), The ECB’s non-standard
(2011), ECB, ESCB, and the Eurosystem; (2012), Key dates of the financial crisis; Moro, B. (2012),
The theoretical debate on the recent great crisis, Rivista Italiana degli Economisti, XVII n.1, April
(**ECB publications available at www.ecb.europa.eu)

WED 5 December h 9.30-11.15 (Sala riunioni 2, II Floor)
  • Modelling EU institutions: lessons from Switzerland? (Jean Blondel, IUE and CIRCaP)

**Readings to be announced and circulated

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1 To be presented by 2 students: part a) the theoretical framework; b) the case studies
MON 10 December h 16.30-18 (Room 3B)
TUE 11 December h 12.15-13.45 (Room 3A)
WED 12 December h 9.30-11 (Sala riunioni 2, II Floor)
  - The EU as a global actor (Daniela Sicurelli, University of Trento)

In particular:
  - 10/12 The Lisbon Treaty and the international actorness of the EU
    Analysis of the major innovations introduced by the Lisbon Treaty to the EU institutional system, with a focus on the institutions involved in foreign policy-making.
  - 11/12 CFSP before and after the Lisbon Treaty
    Discussion of the relationship between the Commission and the Council of the EU in the field of foreign and security policy under the Nice and Lisbon Treaty. Analysis of case studies.
  - 12/12 The international role of a hybrid political system
    Assessment of the impact of the hybrid political system of the EU (combining supranational and intergovernal features) its foreign policy approach, and on its role as an international actor.

MON 17/12 h 14-16 (Room 3B, I Floor)
  - Opposition to Europe or opposition in Europe? The relationship between the European Parliament and the Commission (Liana Smaldore, University of Siena)


WED 19/12 h 9.30-11 (Sala Riunioni 2, II Floor)
  - A European Phoenix. In search of a uniform electoral procedure for the EP 1948-1979 (Daniele Pasquinucci, University of Siena)

**Readings to be announced and circulated**
TUE 8/1 h 14-16 (Room 3A, I Floor)
- **Voting behaviour in the EP: National vs. European dynamics** (Stefano Braghiroli, University of Tartu, Estonia)
Definition of the main actors involved; Presentation of the 2-principal discourse; Discussion of the analytical approaches; Presentation of some case studies; Debate on empirical data (NOMINATE, measures of cohesion).


TUE 15/1 h 16-17.30 (Room 3A, I Floor)
- **European elections: Still second-order and national?** (Stefano Braghiroli)
Short overview of the last European elections; Discussion of the key points from the literature; Focus on the second-orderliness and national nature; Presentation of case studies of transnational debate; Discussion of the electoral campaigns; Debate on empirical/survey data.


TUE 22/1 h 16-17.30 (Room 3A, I Floor)
- **The EU enlargement process. Focus on the Turkish case in a comparative perspective** (Stefano Braghiroli)
Overview of the enlargement process from the first phase to the future perspectives; Discussion of key points from the literature; Presentation of the implications of the conditionality discourse; Discussion of the Turkish case; Comparison with the enlargement process in the Western Balkans.


➢ **Final Written Exam 30/1 h 9.30-11**

ARTICLES FROM THE LISBON TREATY WILL BE INCLUDED. POSSIBLE OTHER READINGS WILL BE SUGGESTED DURING THE COURSE. RELEVANT EU WEB RESOURCES WILL BE ALSO SHOWN TO THE CLASS.

LISTS OF QUESTIONS FOR SELF-EVALUATION WILL BE ALSO CIRCULATED DURING THE COURSE.