



STUDY PROGRAMME

1. POL
2. MATA

ACADEMIC YEAR

2021 - 2022

SEMESTER

Second

COURSE TITLE

EU Digital Law and Policies

COURSE PROFESSOR

Martin BAILEY & Björn JURETZKI

COURSE ASSISTANT

Eva GERLAND

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL)

Optional

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

ECTS CREDITS

5

1. COURSE OBJECTIVE

The goal of this course is to give a comprehensive overview of all relevant digital policies on the EU level and to familiarise students with working methods in the European Commission. At the end of the course, participants will have developed a better understanding of the ubiquitous and interconnected nature of digital technologies and thus the many complex policy issues they raise.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The above course objectives link up with the following programme-specific learning outcomes:

1.1 Students possess a pluri-disciplinary understanding of European integration, allowing them to understand fully the nature, dynamics and functioning of the EU system.

1.2 Students have a general knowledge of the main components of the EU political system: institutions, actors, decision-making procedures, competences and policies.

1.4 Students possess an in-depth knowledge of fundamental aspects of the EU political system (institutions, actors, policies etc.).

1.5 Students develop a concrete understanding of the logics of policy-making and negotiations within the EU political system, thanks to simulation exercises and the drafting of policy papers.

2.1 Students can recognize, contextualize, explain, and interpret political, societal and economic phenomena in European integration. They can assess events, governance problems and political crises.



2.2 Students can analyse the process and actors of EU policy-making at different levels of governance and can reflect on potential developments.

2.3 Students can transform a complex problem into a research question, mobilize theories, develop a research design, and conduct empirical work to provide solutions in an analytical and balanced way.

2.5 Students are able to analyse, in a limited amount of time, complex and new issues, by finding and investigating various sources of information and delivering an analytical and critical synthesis.

2.7 Students can communicate clearly and effectively, through oral presentations or written documents, to different kinds of audiences.

2.8 Students are capable of evolving in a multi-cultural context and of taking into account the variety of political systems, institutional logics and cultural backgrounds.

For MATA students, the following MATA programme-specific learning outcomes are relevant:

1.3 The graduate has good knowledge of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, the political and/or legal systems, the decision-making processes, the economic structures and the main internal and external policies of the European Union and the United States.

1.4 The graduate has insights into historical, political, legal and economic aspects of transatlantic affairs as well as into those policy areas that are of essential importance to transatlantic affairs. He or she can use these insights to contextualize and interpret new developments.

2.1 The graduate can approach the field of transatlantic affairs in a broad sense analytically by assessing the challenges in this domain with an open mind for diversity and for complex situations.

2.2 The graduate has the ability to critically reflect upon problems regarding an extensive range of transatlantic affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.

2.4 The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information and appropriately analyse relevant sources depending on his or her disciplinary focus within a short period of time and of suggesting possible actions that contribute to problem-solving in a creative way.

2.5 The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to take responsibilities and function autonomously in a professional environment at national or international level, and especially in a transatlantic context, and to work efficiently and effectively through planning, organizing, setting priorities, meeting deadlines, cooperating across cultural boundaries and networking.

3. COURSE CONTENTS

The course will consist of 10 blocks covering the following subjects:

1. General introduction into digital technologies and policies related to the Digital Single Market: what are the building blocks both from a technological and regulatory point of view?
2. The iPhone and self-driving cars: two examples to understand the breadth of issues raised by digital technologies
3. Deep-dive on Regulation on Geoblocking



4. Deep-dive on platforms (including illegal content)
5. Connectivity, telecoms reform and cyber
6. Big Data (including GDPR, ePrivacy, free flow of data, and PSI Directive) & Green ICT
7. Artificial intelligence (including skills and the future of work)
8. AVMSD and copyright
9. Digital transformation: Health, Agriculture, Construction, Digitising European Industry
10. Funding and future perspectives: What next after the Digital Single Market? How should the EU respond to the Coronavirus-induced economic downturn?

4. TEACHING METHOD(S)

The sessions will be conducted as interactively as possible, and students are expected to participate actively. References to current events and developments will be included as much as possible to enable the link with the real world. Students will be encouraged to think and behave as real policy-makers, as if they themselves were responsible for the conception of that policy.

Presentations are expected to be lively and entertaining, combining a descriptive and analytical part with some policy conclusions and personal recommendations.

The oral exam will be more traditional, with answers to be given to a number of relevant questions.

The research papers, for their part, will have to strike a balance between supplying a well-founded analysis and, yet again, offering some more personal considerations and suggestions. The idea for the paper is to replicate a so-called Jour Fixe note which is a Commission-internal term for a note that is being discussed with the Commissioner during the regular Jour Fixes. More details on the assignment will be provided during the course.

5. COURSE MATERIAL

All course materials are provided in the classes. An indicative reading list can be provided on request.

6. EVALUATION

Final grades will be given on the basis of:



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe

Brugge



Natolir

ECTS CARD

- Oral examination¹: 50%
- Policy research paper (Jour Fixe note): 20%
- Oral presentation: 20%
- Active participation in class: 10%

Assessment at second attempt

During the second examination session the course is assessed 100% on the basis of a written resit exam. The format of the resit exam is identical to that of the first session.

¹ The evaluation modalities of the final exam may be subject to adaptations in function of the evolution of the sanitary situation.