



STUDY PROGRAMME(S)

(1) EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies

(2) Transatlantic Affairs

ACADEMIC YEAR

2023-24

SEMESTER

2

COURSE TITLE

EU Enlargement ... and UK Withdrawal

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

David PHINNEMORE

COURSE ASSISTANT(S)

Aoife GRIFFIN

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL, ELECTIVE)

(1) Optional course

(2) Elective course

ECTS CREDITS

4.5

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

1. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This optional course examines the dynamics of EU enlargement and the process of the UK's withdrawal from the EU. Drawing on experiences of past enlargements, it analyses why and how the EU enlarges as well as the reasons behind applications for membership from non-member states. The course explores how the dynamics of enlargement have changed over time, notably since the 2004 enlargement, paying particular attention to the EU's approach to the membership aspirations of current candidates and applicants (e.g. Turkey, Montenegro, Ukraine) and other would-be members from the Western Balkans and the wider Europe. It assesses the prospects for the accession of these countries as well as for the future of enlargement more generally. It also considers how states can withdraw from the EU, the practices and principles that have been established in the context of the UK's withdrawal from the EU, how the 'Brexit' process unfolded and how the UK's departure from the EU might impact on enlargement.

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- explain conceptual and practical perspectives on the process of EU enlargement
- understand the dynamics underpinning past, current and future rounds of EU enlargement as well as the UK's withdrawal process
- critically assess academic and think tank analyses of the dynamics of EU enlargement and withdrawal from the EU
- describe the principles underpinning the EU's approach to negotiating accession and withdrawal and how this has evolved
- critically assess the role of conditionality and other factors as determinants of enlargement
- understand and be able to critically assess the mechanisms by which states can accede to and withdraw from the EU



2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme **EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies**:

- 1.1 The graduate masters the most important theoretical approaches and concepts of International Relations, EU Studies and Diplomacy Studies relevant for the analysis of the role of the European Union in international affairs.
- 1.2 The graduate can describe, explain and illustrate the current state of scientific research in the field of EU external relations in a broad sense and is able to critically assess the results of this research.
- 1.4 The graduate has acquired insights into the political, legal and economic aspects of EU external action and can use these insights to contextualise and interpret new developments.
- 2.1 The graduate can approach the field of national, European and international diplomacy 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 in international and European affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.
- 2.3 The graduate can independently formulate a research question within the field of European affairs, find, select and critically assess relevant sources, answer the question using typical concepts and methods and present the research results in line with the ethical rules of the discipline.
- 2.4 The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information within a short period of time and to work efficiently and effectively through planning, organising, setting priorities and meeting deadlines.
- 2.5 The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to function responsibly and autonomously in a professional context at national, European or international level and the capacity of suggesting possible action that contributes to problem-solving in a creative way.
- 3.3 The graduate has acquired multi-faceted knowledge of bilateral and/or multilateral relationships between the EU and important third countries or international organisations and can contextualise them in the EU's broader external relations.

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme **Transatlantic Affairs**:

- 1.1 The graduate masters the most important theoretical approaches and concepts of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, Economics, International Relations and Diplomacy Studies, Legal Studies and/or Political Science relevant for the analysis of transatlantic affairs.
- 1.2 The graduate can describe, explain and illustrate the current state of scientific research in the field of transatlantic affairs in a broad sense and, in line with his or her disciplinary focus, is able to critically assess the results of this research.
- 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.
- 2.3 The graduate can independently transform complex transatlantic issues into a research question within the broader field of transatlantic affairs and, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, find, select and critically assess relevant sources, answer the question using appropriate concepts and methods and present the research results in line with the ethical rules of the chosen discipline.
- 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

Part I: Past Enlargements: Motives and Mechanisms

Part II: Enlargement from EU(15) to EU(28): Drivers and Dynamics

Part III: The EU, Applicants and Candidates: Enlargement to the Balkans and the Wider Europe

Part IV: UK Withdrawal and the Future of EU Enlargement

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to the full course outline.

4. TEACHING METHOD

- Interactive lectures: Slides are provided for each session.
- Participation: Students are expected to regularly attend the class, to prepare the required readings and to participate actively in the discussions.
- Oral group presentations: Presentation topics for each session are listed in the teaching schedule.
- Individual paper assignment: Students propose a topic which is different from that of their group presentation.

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to further information and instructions.

5. COURSE MATERIAL

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to the detailed reading list (required and supplementary readings) and the slides.

6. EVALUATION

- a group presentation in class (15%)
- a research paper (35%)
- an oral exam (50%)

In case of a second-session resit, a 2h written exam counts for 100% of the mark.

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to further information and instructions.