



STUDY PROGRAMME

1. European Legal Studies Programme

ACADEMIC YEAR

SEMESTER

2. Transatlantic Affairs

2019-2020

Second

COURSE TITLE

The EU and its Neighbourhood: Typology and Content of the Legal Frameworks

COURSE PROFESSOR

M. Maresceau

COURSE ASSISTANT

C. Challet

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL)

Optional

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

ECTS CREDITS

5

1. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objective of the seminar is to study the legal frameworks organising the relations between the EU and its European neighbours and to provide a comparative approach of the existing proximity models.

The seminar will offer an insight in the complex legal labyrinth of bilateral and multilateral frameworks organising the relations between the EU and its European neighbours.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme **European Legal Studies** :

- 1.1. Possess advanced knowledge of the European Union (EU), its institutions, competences, substantive principles and legal doctrines
- 1.2. Possess general knowledge on the main elements of the EU's law and policy at large
- 1.3. Possess in-depth, scientific knowledge on specific areas of EU law
- 2.1. Be able to think analytically, correctly analysing complex legal problems in a multi-level legal order, the various sources of law, legal instruments and actors, and to formulate a scientifically sound position on the basis of logical reasoning
- 2.2. Be able to think dynamically, to understand the constantly changing and evolving nature of the European integration process and to provide constructive commentary on its possible future development



- 2.3. Be able to think critically, formulating an independent opinion and interpretation of complex legal problems, contextualising findings and weighing a multitude of different factors, including findings from other disciplines
- 2.4. Be able to process a large amount of information within a short amount of time and to deliver accurate and reflective outcomes
- 2.5. Be able to work with primary sources of law, such as judgments and legislation, and to reflect independently on their significance and interpretation
- 2.6. Be able to work in a multi-cultural context, understanding and mediating different legal systems, legal traditions and normative frameworks in a constructive way
- 2.7. Be able to develop, research, discuss and critically answer questions regarding a scientific research question of EU law in a scientifically responsible way
- 2.9. Draft a clear legal scientific text in the area of EU law
- 2.10. Present and defend orally an issue relating to EU law on the basis of legal argumentation or a personal position
- 2.11. Be able to study and work in the area of EU law in English and French, including through interaction with native speakers

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, is, in line with his or her disciplinary focus, able to critically assess the results of this research.
- 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.
- 2.3 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

After a short overview of the EU enlargement process, the seminar will focus on the relationship of the enlarged EU with its European neighbours. Some of these neighbours are formally Candidate States for EU accession and/or aspire (or have aspired) to become EU members, while others do not have this ambition and/or are (currently) not included in the EU's enlargement policy. A general overview of various of EU's "proximity-models", incorporating inter alia the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and Eastern Partnership, will be provided.

The seminar will also include several selected case-studies. First, the EU-Turkey relations, incorporating the "Cyprus Question", will be addressed. A second case-study will examine a very different but important type of bilateral relationship and concentrate on the EU-Switzerland relations. Another case-study will focus on the EU-Russia relations. These relationships have always been very complex and have been seriously affected by the EU's enlargement and the ENP and Eastern Partnership policy, and in particular by the signature of the Association Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine. Finally, the legal framework organising the relationship with the UK, as a new EU neighbour, will be examined.

For MATA students, this course improves their knowledge about the EU enlargement process and the EU relationship with neighbouring states. It also improves their skills in critical reflection of EU enlargement and the EU external policies.

4. TEACHING METHOD

Interactive lectures; in order to achieve this, students are expected to read the materials (compulsory reading) as provided in the Reader.

5. FURTHER DETAILS ON THE TEACHING METHOD

Reading assignments are indicated in the lectures (compulsory and background reading.)

6. COURSE MATERIAL

7. EVALUATION

Written exam of 2,5 h. Only treaties are allowed. 2 questions to answer. The exam answers shouldn't exceed 5 pages per question.

Exams organised in the second session period are 100% written exams.