



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe

Brugge



Natolin

ECTS CARD

STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2023-2024

COURSE TITLE

The EU and the Indo-Pacific

SEMESTER

2

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

ISLAM Shada

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

SZATTERS Konrad

COURSE TYPE

Compact Seminar

MAJOR(S)

EUW

ECTS CREDITS

no ECTS

TEACHING HOURS

8

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

not
applicable

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

This compact seminar explores the latest developments in the EU's relations with the Indo Pacific, including its search for a stronger profile and intention to reinforce its strategic focus, presence and actions in this exciting and geopolitically important region. Key questions which merit reflection, critical thinking and debate include the challenges and opportunities for the EU to become a more influential actor in the Indo Pacific. Although the EU is no stranger to the region, having built up a network of trade agreements and "partnership" pacts across with countries over the years, is it punching its weight in the Indo Pacific or is its role and influence overshadowed by the US, China and Japan. The seminar will look at the history of the EU's relationship with the Indo-Pacific, the dominant narratives that have steered the connections and the current state of EU engagement with the region through connectivity partnerships, trade agreements, development partnerships and strategic dialogues including on security issues, on both the bilateral and regional level but also on the global stage, especially on crucial questions linked to global governance. The course will analyse the strengths and deficits of the EU's developing relationships with China, India, ASEAN and Japan and seek insights on how these partnerships can be made more relevant to tackle 21st Century challenges including climate change, implementation of Agenda 2030, immigration and religious extremism.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will acquire an in-depth understanding of the various facets of the EU's strategic presence, focus and engagement in the Indo-Pacific and how it fits in with the EU's strategy for enhanced global engagement and relevance in areas such as trade, political and strategic dialogue, security, human rights, development cooperation and humanitarian aid. Students will have an opportunity to engage in critical thinking and debate on how the EU and Indo-Pacific countries can become stronger partners in an uncertain and rapidly-changing world.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

Readings before each session.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

The classes will be based on a series of lively and interactive lectures, group discussion and presentations.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

The compact seminar will be assessed on a 'pass/fail' basis through:

- an online closed-book multiple-choice test (80% of the mark) at the end of the final course session - 15 minutes to answer 7 questions, and
- overall attendance (20% of the mark).

The weighted average of both assessment elements needs to be equal or greater than 50% for a student to pass the compact seminar.

Each student is entitled to re-taking the test once. The re-take test would account for 80% of the mark whilst overall attendance would account for the remaining 20%.

Since compact seminars carry no ECTS credits, the final result will be present on the transcript, but will have no impact on the student's final average, nor on the overall grade, nor on attaining the diploma.

COURSE CONTENTS

The course will be organised around key themes of relevance and the changing history and narrative of the EU's engagement in the Indo-Pacific, with references to the wider geopolitical and geoeconomics contexts. Special attention will also be given to the question of connectivity, and the EU's relations with China, India, ASEAN, and Japan. The role of ASEM as a geopolitical forum will be discussed.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

See the bibliography on the course outline.