



## ECTS CARD

### STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

### YEAR

2022-2023

### COURSE TITLE

**EU Energy Governance in the EU's Neighbourhood**

### SEMESTER

2

### COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

WEBER Bernd

### ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

SZATTERS Konrad

### COURSE TYPE

Core Course

### MAJOR(S)

EUN

### ECTS CREDITS

4

### TEACHING HOURS

20

### INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

80

### TUTORIAL(S)

### COEFFICIENT

1

### LANGUAGE(S)

EN

### COURSE OBJECTIVE

Energy is a vital aspect in EU relations with neighbouring countries, playing a multi-faceted, often contradictory and recently highly conflictual role. On the one hand, energy issues have often triggered or aggravated the political conflicts in the EU's Eastern and Southern neighbourhoods and between the EU and neighbouring countries. On the other hand, given its central role in socio-economic development, energy policy is also regarded as a central pillar for boosting the economy, integration and economic and political reforms. The COVID-19 crisis and Russia's invasion of Ukraine shed light on the role of volatile markets and geopolitics in EU-ENP relations, as the initial collapse of oil prices and the recent unprecedented hike in gas prices and consequently electricity prices show. The objective of the course is to examine the different approaches and instruments of EU-ENP energy relations, delving into the drivers of cooperation and conflict with the EU and in the region between markets and geopolitics.

### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

To the aim of analysing EU-ENP energy relations, the course will address four main pillars of the EU-ENP energy conundrum: (1) Energy security (2) Market integration (3) Pipeline politics (4) Promotion of Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency. The course is structured to strike a good balance between theoretical and practical components. The lectures and readings will introduce students to the main scholarly and policy debates on this topic, encouraging students to reflect on a wide range of theories and methodological traditions. At the same time, the course will also foster students' hands-on expertise, by guiding students into writing a policy brief on a topical issue of EU-ENP energy relations.

At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

- describe the main energy-related challenges in the EU-ENP relations;
- apply appropriate concepts and theories to explain EU-ENP energy cooperation and conflict;
- collect and analyse information on market-related and geopolitical aspects of EU-energy relations; - critically assess EU energy approaches and initiatives in the ENP area;

- device informed, original and realistic policy recommendations for improving energy policies.

## RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

Students are required to read the mandatory readings in advance. Preparation will be key to perform well in the group discussions and in-class assignments.

## TEACHING METHOD(S)

- *Interactive lectures*: lectures will combine explanation by the professor (with slides) and discussion moments, and in-class exercises.
- *Participation*: students are expected to attend class regularly and to actively and constructively contribute to the group discussions.
- *Presentation*: the last session will be dedicated to the student presentations and Q&A

## ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

- *Individual policy brief (40% of final mark)*: students will receive guidelines on how to write a policy brief. The professor will propose a range of topics, but students' initiative is also welcome. Policy briefs will be assessed on the students' ability to: (1) be concise and avoid unnecessary jargon; (2) describe the problem in a compelling way; (3) take a stance and defend it; (4) formulate original yet pragmatic policy recommendations; (5) present the information in an attractive and reader-friendly way. The word limit is 2000-2200 words including footnotes.
- *Take-home exam (60% of final mark)*: this part of the examination will be an academic essay, which will test for students' ability to integrate the factual content of the course with the use of specialized concepts and theoretical approaches. More specifically, the take-home exam will consist of the analysis of a primary source (e.g. a speech, policy document, project fiche) that will be given by the professor, together with three questions. The grading criteria include: (1) clarity and comprehensiveness of the answers; (2) focus and originality of the argument; (3) organization and structure of the essay; (4) integration of relevant concepts and theories; (5) evidence of wide and relevant reading; (5) accuracy in writing and referencing. The word limit is 2000-2200 words including footnotes.

The College of Europe reserves the right to change the delivery and assessment of the course in case of circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the College (*force majeure*). Any communication from the campus administration in this regard takes precedence over the information provided in this ECTS card.

Retake examinations, i.e., exams passed in the second examination session, will have the same format as those taken during the first exam session. The only exception concerns oral exams, which are replaced in the second exam session by written exams. When a student takes an examination during the second session, the final mark for the course is based solely on the result of the retake examination. No other element of evaluation which would have been taken into consideration in the calculation of the final mark during the first examination session will be considered in the second session.

## COURSE CONTENTS

Session 1. Introduction: Unpacking the energy security challenge and crises

Session 2. EU External Energy Policy and the underlying market liberalisation approach (3 hours)

Session 3. The 'concentric circles' of energy co-operation and integration in the neighbourhood (3 hours)

Session 4. Understanding pipeline politics and gas crisis in the neighbourhood between markets and geopolitics (3 hours)

Session 5. The borderline cases of energy co-operation in the neighbourhood: Case studies on Azerbaijan and Algeria (3 hours)

Session 6. Promotion of Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency: What options for the energy transition in the neighbourhood? (3 hours)

Session 7. Conclusion: Imagining and discussing conflicting and promising venues of EU-ENP energy relations (3 hours)

#### **COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)**

The following materials are provided in the virtual learning environment:

- Power points of the lectures
- Guidelines for policy brief writing

List of mandatory and recommended readings is available in course outline.