



ECTS CARD

STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2022-2023

COURSE TITLE

EU Governance: Theory, Practice and Challenges

SEMESTER

2

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

WESSELS Wolfgang

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

BOURGOIS Kilian

COURSE TYPE

Core Course

MAJOR(S)

EPAP

ECTS CREDITS

4

TEACHING HOURS

20

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

80

TUTORIAL(S)

NO

COEFFICIENT

1

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

Students will be confronted to major EU challenges enabling them to analyze and assess EU performance of its multi-level governance in the current two major crises.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students are able to apply a quadruple 'A' approach: to 1) analyze and 2) assess the basic legal words and the real-world features of several modes of the EU's governance, as well as 3) to provide advice for 2021 onwards and 4) act to learn professional skills.
- One key case for applying this approach will be the EU's management of the Corona crisis; especially the astonishing decision of the July session of the European Council on the Recovery and Resilience funds and the Multi – Annual financial framework
- A second key case study for applying this approach are the EU activities and actions dealing with the Russian invasion of the Ukraine
- Regarding analysis, students are able to use and discuss the main concepts and theories related to European integration issues
- Regarding assessment, students are able to identify and use, with a critical distance, the official EU documents, such as the conclusions of the European Council and the respective resolutions of the European Parliament
- Regarding advice students are able to formulate options for EU actors
- Regarding acting, students are able to develop presentation, writing and analytical skills useful in their professional career.
- Students will train respective skills- especially in the simulation game on the European Council's strategy agenda from 2024 onwards

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

WESSELS Wolfgang (2016), The European Council, Palgrave Macmillan.

Further preparatory readings will be provided before the start of the course.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

Seminar with intensive interactive class debates based on preparatory readings and a simulation game.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

- Class participation: preparation and active participation in the seminar and simulation game will be assessed (30% of the final mark). Students will be expected to go through the required readings before each session. In case the number of course participants exceeds 20, only participation in the simulation game will be assessed.
- Academic paper (essay) OR policy paper: 2500-3300 words including footnotes but excluding annexes, cover page, table of contents, abstract and bibliography. Students choose their own topics related to issues of the course, but topics will be agreed upon by the professor. Papers will be defended in a short 10 minute session (30%)
- Oral examination lasting 25 minutes (40%). Students will be expected to answer substantial questions about their essays' subjects (taking into account the comments provided by the lecturer during the feedback sessions) and on the different blocks of the course.

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

Block 1. Concepts and Theories (5 hours)

- The Challenges ahead of the European Union: the priorities on the political agenda – eg. The State of the Union address and conclusions of the European Council
- Overview of respective modes of governance including relevant theoretical approaches
- The European Council as key institution. Three institutional models for analyzing the legal and actual position and performance of the European Council: the 'presidency model', the 'council model' and the 'fusion model'.

Block 2. European Economic Governance and the Management of Corona crisis: the recovery and residence fund and the Multi-Annual financial framework (5 hours)

The challenges from March 2020 onwards: interest and issues

- The legal provisions/words in the Lisbon Treaty for the procedures on own resources and the multi -annual financial framework (MMF)
- The activities/conclusions of the European Council
- Real world constellations: cleavages and coalitions
- The long-term impact of the decision on the EU's future
- Challenges and opportunities of European Economic Crisis Management

Block 3. The European Union on the Way to becoming a Global Actor: governance in external action, the Russian invasion of Ukraine (5 hours)

The Challenges from February 2022 onwards : interest and issues and the challenges ahead: relations with US, China, Russia and Turkey. The legal provisions/words in the Lisbon Treaty for the EU's external action the procedures for the two pillars Conceptual offers: Normative power, market power, a geopolitical actor...

- Case-study: the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the European Union's activities and action.

Block 4. Concluding session. Debating Upcoming Challenges, The EU's agenda from 2025 onwards in the context of different scenarios (5 hours)

The course will finish with a simulation game in which students will play the European leaders framing the strategy agenda of the European Council. Taking into account the strategic agenda of 2014 and 2019 as well as the options discussed early 2024 students as the members of the European Council will adopt the new strategic agenda – thus they elaborate EU positions for key issues for the future of EU Governance.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

Reading list available in the course outline.