



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe



Natolin

ECTS CARD

STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2023-2024

COURSE TITLE

Ukraine and the EU: From Independence to War

SEMESTER

2

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

WOLCZUK Kataryna

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

HAMMAMI Amel

COURSE TYPE

Specialist Course

MAJOR(S)

EUN

ECTS CREDITS

4

TEACHING HOURS

20

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

80

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

1

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

From an inauspicious beginning in the 1990s, over time EU-Ukraine relations have gained in prominence, not least because Russia's war on Ukraine jeopardises the entire European order, its peace and stability.

This course examines EU-Ukraine relations by adopting an interdisciplinary perspective, combining political, historical, cultural, economic and international analyses.

The course goes beyond the narrow EU-centered analysis by bringing in domestic and regional dimensions. These include the role of domestic structures and actors, the role of contingency (revolutions, war etc.) and the role of 'third countries' in order to make sense of EU-Ukraine relations.

The case of Ukraine will be set in a comparative perspective, namely against the backdrop of the baffling differences in neighbouring states' responses to EU policies. Moreover, the role of Russia as a 'third country' with a profound impact on bilateral relations and on the EU itself will be factored in.

Overall, the course will provide an opportunity to learn 1) how to conduct a country-level analysis and 2) how to examine the interplay of EU-level, domestic and regional factors shaping the relations and the respective impact of the EU and Ukraine on each other.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, the students will

- Gain understanding of the key political, legal, economic, cultural and security factors driving EU-Ukraine relations (in a broader regional and comparative contexts)
- Be able to provide a systematic conceptual and empirical analysis of 1) the impact of the EU on Ukraine's domestic and foreign policies and 2) the role of Ukraine in shaping EU's neighborhood policy and then enlargement strategy.
- Be able to evaluate the role of Russia as a driver in the evolution of EU-Ukraine relations.

- Develop analytical, presentation and debating skills.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

Prior to the beginning of the course, a detailed structure and bibliography will be provided.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

The course will be delivered through a variety of teaching methods, including lectures, discussion, presentations and debate.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

- 30% Group oral presentation (20 min) followed by Q&A with the group (for the presentation, students must prepare a PowerPoint presentation).
- 70% Written exam (2 hours; digital closed-book in-class exam): 2 essay questions, [1000 words per question maximum]

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

The course will provide a multi-faceted analysis of the relations focusing on the following (indicative) themes:

- 1) Ukraine's domestic drivers of - and demand for - engagement with the EU (including revolutions and war),
- 2) the role of Europe in national identity, regional differences and societal mobilisation in Ukraine,
- 3) EU's role in polity- and policy-oriented domestic reforms,
- 4) changing legal 'boundaries of order': legal frameworks and political instruments (Association Agreements and various policy innovations),
- 5) the role of Russia, geopolitics and security,
- 6) the shifting status: candidate status and enlargement process and prospects,
- 7) Ukraine as a 'wake-up' call for the EU? Moving towards a geopolitical Europe?

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

Prior to the beginning of the course, a detailed structure and bibliography will be provided.