

**COURSE DESCRIPTION****1. Information about the programme**

1.1 Institution of higher education	Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi
1.2 Faculty	Facultatea of Philosophy and Social-Political Sciences
1.3 Department	Political Sciences, International Relations and European Studies
1.4 Field of study	International Relations and European Studies
1.5 Level	Bachelor
1.6 Study programme/ Qualification	International Relations and European Studies
1.7 Academic year	I

2. Information about the course

2.1 Course name		INTRODUCTION TO EUROPEAN STUDIES					
2.2 Course coordinator		Associate Professor BOGDAN ȘTEFANACHI					
2.3 Seminar coordinator		PhD. OLESEA TARANU					
2.4 Year of study	II	2.5 Semester	I	2.6 Type of assessment*	E/M*	2.7 Discipline status**	C

* E – Exam M-mixed

** C – Compulsory / E – Elective

3. Total estimated time (hours allotted to didactic activity per semester)

3.1 Total number of hours per week	4	of which: lecture	2	3.3 seminar/lab	2
3.2 Total number of hours in the curriculum	56	of which: lecture	28	3.6 seminar/lab	28
3.3 Time distribution					
Study of the handbook, coursebook, bibliography and notes					32
Additional research in the library, online and on the field					18
Preparation of seminars/labs, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					38
Tutorials					4
Assessment					2
Other activities.....					-

3.4 Total number of self-study hours	94
3.5 Total number of hours per semester	150
3.6 Number of credits	5

4. Prerequisites (if applicable)

4.1 curriculum-based	4.1 curriculum-based
4.2 competence-based	4.2 competence-based

5. Conditions (if applicable)

Course.	40% Online Platform
Seminar/Lab	25% Online Platform



6. Assimilated specific competences

Professional competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assimilating and understanding the main concepts and the diachrony associated with the European integration process; • acquiring knowledge needed to interpret the dynamics of interaction between national and Community frameworks; • knowing the main theoretical frameworks of European integration and understanding the link between development of European integration theories and the evolution of European Union; • developing a critical analysis perspective of the transformation of European Union under the pressure of globalization and acquiring the knowledge needed to appropriate this transformation.
Transversal competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing the teamwork skills as well as oral and written communication skills both in native and foreign language; • demonstrating concern for professional development by engaging critical thinking skills; • developing the ability to identify strategic issues and anticipate developments, to set priorities and find appropriate solutions; • participating in projects that combine theoretical knowledge with practical aspects needed for successful employment.

7. Discipline objectives (provided by the assimilated specific competences grid)

7.1. General objective of the discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge at a minimum level of the main theoretical frameworks that allow the structuring of explanations regarding the dynamics of European integration • understanding and knowing at a minimum the intensity and extension of the concepts associated with the two axes of European integration - extension and deepening • minimal understanding of the changing nature of the world order after the end of the Cold War and the implications for triggering the European integration process • minimal understanding of the specific institutional order of the European Union as well as of the relations between the main European institutions • carrying out the seminar activity at a minimum level
7.2. Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge of the main moments and events that marked the start of the European integration process • knowledge of the institutional framework of the European Union • knowledge of the main analytical frameworks of the European integration process

8. Content

8.1	Lecture	Teaching methods	Observations
1.	The idea of European unity	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
2.	Historical evolution – the transformation of Western Europe (Historical divisions, Post-war transformations)	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
3.	European Communities - ECSC	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
4.	European Communities – from ECSC to European Community	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures



5.	From European Community to European Union	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
6.	The process of European integration (Enlargement)	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
7.	The process of European integration (Deepening)	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
8.	The objectives of European Union	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
9.	The functioning of the European Union (main European institutions)	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
10.	Theories of European integration: federalism	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
11.	Theories of European integration: functionalism/neo-functionalism	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
12.	Theories of European integration: intergovernmentalism/liberal intergovernmentalism	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
13.	Theories of European integration: multi-level governance	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures
14.	Final course - conclusions	Presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 Lectures

Bibliography:

- **Kaiser Wolfram, Varsori, Antonio, European Union History: Themes and Debates, Palgrave Macmillan, 2010**
- **Dinan, Desmond, Ever Closer Union. An Introduction to European Integration, Palgrave, 2003.**
- **Warleigh-Lack, Alex, European Union: The Basics, Routledge, 2008**
- **McAllister, Richard, From EC to EU. An Historical and Political Survey, Routledge, 1997**
- **Staab, Andreas, The European Union Explained. Institutions, Actors, Global Impact, Indiana University Press, 2008.**
- **Wallace, William, Wallace, Helen, Pollack, Mark, Policy-Making in the European Union (5th edition), Oxford University Press, 2005.**
- **Hix, Simon, The Political System of the European Union (2nd edition), Palgrave Macmillan, 2005**
- **Pelkmans, J, European Integration. Methods and Economic Analysis, Pearson Education, 2000**

8.2	Seminar/lab	Teaching methods	Observations
1.	What is European Union	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
2.	The Idea of Europe	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
3.	Documents and Treaties	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
4.	Founding fathers of European Union	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
5.	The evolution of European Union	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar



6.	The institutions of European Union ("The institutional Triangle")	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
7.	The institutions of European Union (other institutions and bodies)	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning	
8.	Member States of the European Union	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
9.	European Union and its citizens	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
10.	European Union's politics	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
11.	Political process in the European Union	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
12.	European Union – the quality of life	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
13.	International relations of the European Union	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar
14.	Final seminar – conclusions	PPT presentation, explanation, conversation, questioning.	1 seminar

Bibliography:

- Dinan, Desmond, *Ever Closer Union. An Introduction to European Integration*, Palgrave, 2003.
- Ferreol, Gilles, *Dicționarul Uniunii Europene*, Ed. Polirom, Iași, 2001
- Magonette, Paul, *Europa politică. Cetățenie, constituție, democrație*, Ed. Institutul European, Iași, 2005
- Magonette, Paul, *Europa, Statul și Democrația*, Ed. Institutul European, Iași, 2005
- McCormick, John, *Să înțelegem Uniunea Europeană*, Ed. Codecs, București, 2006
- Neill Nugent, *The Government and Politics of the European Union*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2003
- Wallace, Helen and William, *Wallace, Procesul politic în Uniunea Europeană*, Ed. Arc, Chișinău, 2004
- Zörgbibe, Charles, *Construcția Europeană. Trecut, prezent, viitor*, Ed. Trei, 1998

9. Corroboration of the discipline content with the expectations of epistemic community representatives, professional associations as well as of representative employers in the programme related field.

--

10. Assessment

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Share of final grade
10.4 Course	Assimilation and understanding of the main concepts related to the history and evolution of European integration Assimilation and understanding of the functioning of the main European institutions	Quiz (online)	50%



10.5 Seminar/ Lab	Assimilation and critical evaluation of the major components of the European integration process Ability to argue in debates Individual presentation	Participation in the seminar and in the debates related to each presentation Individual presentation	50%
10.6 Minimum performance standard: 5			
Quiz Individual presentation seminar			

Date of completion

Lecture Coordinator

Seminar Coordinator

Associate Prof. Bogdan
ȘTEFANACHI

PhD. Assistant Oleseă TARANU

Date of approval within the department

Head of Department
Prof. dr. Virgil STOICA