

Course title	<i>European Integration</i>
Credits	12 ECTS
University	Coordinated by KU Leuven with the participation of all UNA Universities
Language of the course	English
Learning outcomes	LO1. understand the different disciplinary approaches to European Studies, including the way in which the different disciplines interact and enrich each other, so that they can grasp the richness of disciplinary perspectives on Europe and reflect on the added-value of multidisciplinary knowledge to understand Europe. LO2. have multidisciplinary knowledge on the fundamental aspects and values of the European Union and European integration as well as of European states and societies, which allows students to grasp the multi-dimensional issues, interests and ideas that are necessary to understand Europe as a political, economic, cultural and societal process in past and present times. LO3. be able to reflect on the role of Europe in the world, not the least by being equipped to grasp the complex multi-dimensional historical and contemporary relations between Europe and other countries, societies and regions and/or continents. LO4. have developed a large set of transversal skills which students need to master in their future domestic and international work environments, so that they are equipped to use organizational, intercultural communication, language and information skills, when confronted with the challenges of daily professional practice. LO5. have acquired analytical skills to conduct research under supervision, as well as present and report, clearly and comprehensively, both orally and in written form knowledge concerning questions of European Studies so that overall, students are able to formulate research questions, understand academic literature, collect and analyse data, critically reflect on research findings and weave this into the scientific-academic presentation of their own research results. LO6. have insight in European Studies as a multi-disciplinary field of scholarship and education, so that students are aware [...]
Course objectives	This course provides a multidisciplinary introduction to the institutional dynamics, the practices, processes and policies of European integration from the Second World War onwards. The course brings together disciplinary insights from History, Philosophy, Law, Economics and Social Sciences, proving a deep understanding of the historical processes, political-philosophical ideas and preferences, economic interests and legal foundations leading up and shaping European integration until today. Furthermore, the course explains, against the background of theories and concepts of European integration, the European Union as a multi-level system of policy-making beyond national boundaries and in the context of globalization.

Content	The course content is organized in two parts: in the first part, the historical perspective prevails; in the second part, a political approach is followed. The first part is structured along three building-blocs, which can be taught in the course. The blocs may not all be covered every year. - First, the course contextualizes European integration in a longterm historical-philosophical perspective by delving into ideas about Europe and European integration since enlightenment; - Second, the course lays out the historical conditions and context of European integration in the aftermath of the Second World War. This includes an outside-in perspective on European integration by non-European countries, including the United States, Communist countries and the developing world; - Third, the course examines the historical process of European integration since the late 1940s, with particular emphasis on the key critical junctures that have determined the way the European project has evolved ever after. The second part is structured along five building-blocs, which can be taught in the course. The blocs may not all be covered every year. - First, the course studies the legal-political foundations of European Integration by considering the Treaties that have paved the way for the emerging European Union (e.g. Paris Treaty, Rome Treaties, Single European Act, Maastricht Treaty, Amsterdam Treaty, Nice Treaty, Lisbon Treaty), including the institutional and administrative set-up of the European Union over time; - Second, the course introduces key concepts and theories of European integration in order to equip students with analytical tools to understand and explain processes, policies and politics of European Integration; - Third, the course introduces the key features of the internal market, including the “four freedoms” (free movement of goods, persons, services and capital), the common policies (such as competition policy) and the economic dynamics that the internal market has generated; - Fourth, the course introduces the policies and politics of the multi-level governance system that European Integration has gradually introduced, by focusing on several examples of policy-making in the EU and the increasing politicization thereof, such as in the context of the financial, migration and Covid-19 crises; - Last but not least, the course introduces the EU as a global actor, including the main external policy areas and the diplomatic activity of the EU, as well as the EU’s relationships with other international organizations and global governance.
Work format(s)	The course is taught by various professors from partner universities of UNA Europa online and as part of a winter school, which can bring together all participating students either physically or through blended-learning. It will also be offered online, so that student can follow in distance mode, if needed. In the winter-school the building blocks/topical areas will be taught in lectures and problem-based learning workshops.
Manner of assessment	Permanent participation Permanent evaluation, incl. group presentations/ workshops Written examination in the examination period