

Course: Government, Politics and Economics of the European Union

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Language of Instruction: English

Syllabus

This course presents to students the European Union and its institutions from different perspectives. The first lesson provides an insight into the origin of the European Union. It will present the historical facts that will let students look at the current European Union as a natural evolution of the different countries and markets in Europe towards the Single Market. This lesson finishes with a review of the main European Institutions and National and Supranational sovereignty.

The second section will provide some knowledge on the economics of the European Union and the Euro. It will focus on the advantages and problems that have been raised in recent years, mainly looking at the single market and the monetary union.

The third lesson will analyze the economic situation of Spain in the context of other countries in the European Union. The students will come to understand the main model of economic growth and its determinants, and will be able to explain the main reason why the Spanish economy lags behind and is weaker than that of the main economies in the European Union or the US. This topic is a bit analytical, but it is the overall idea that students should focus on.

Finally, the last topic looks at one of the economic and social sectors, which at the same time is very important for understanding the development of the welfare state in different countries: the health sector. We will analyze the different international health systems that we observe in Europe, in comparison with the US.

1. The History of the European Union and European Institutions
 - a. Origin
 - b. European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)
 - c. European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA)
 - d. The promotion of the Single Market
 - e. EU Enlargements and Treaties
 - f. European Institutions
2. The Single Market and the European Monetary Union
 - a. The Euro
 - b. The European Union including Eastern Countries
3. Economic growth in Spain and the European Union
 - a. Economic growth and its determinants
 - i. Labor productivity
 - ii. Employment
 - b. Structural changes in Spain and the European Union
4. Introduction to Health Economics and International Health Systems

References

Notes provided in class

Information from Webpages provided in class

Evaluation:

- Mid term exam (1/3)
- Term Paper (1/3): Format: 10 pages, Calibri Size 11, double line spacing, justified text.
- Final Exam (1/3)

Main Course Reading Materials:

- Baldwin, R. and C. 2012. Wyplozs. Economics of European Integration - 4th edition. McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 9780077131722. May 2012
- Fontaine, Pascal. Europe in 12 Lessons. Publications Office of the European Union. ISBN: 978-92-79-71557-0. 2018