



## CIEE Prague, Czech Republic

<b>Course title:</b>	Economics of the European Union
<b>Course code:</b>	ECON 3004 PRAG
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	Business, Arts and Sciences, Central European Studies, Communication, New Media, and Journalism
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>U.S. semester credits:</b>	3.00
<b>Contact hours:</b>	45.00
<b>Term:</b>	Fall 2023

### Course Description

The European Union (EU) as we know it has been formed by three creative processes: deepening of the integration, enlargement of the EU, and economic transformation in former socialist countries. In this course, after introducing those processes and some theoretical background, different EU economic policies are thoroughly analyzed. Considering that the participants are American undergraduates, this course systematically compares and contrasts the EU and its role in the world with the USA. Preliminary knowledge of principles of microeconomics is strongly recommended, but all necessary theoretical concepts are briefly summarized as part of this course.

### Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Analyze the process of economic changes in the broad context of social and political development;
- Define major economic, social, and political changes in Europe since WWII;
- Compare economic, social and political development among different countries;
- Contrast key differences and similarities of the EU and the US policies.

### Course Prerequisites

None

### Methods of Instruction

Most of the course material is covered in the Baldwin-Wyplosz (2012) textbook. Students are provided with PowerPoint slides to the Baldwin-Wyplosz (2012) textbook chapters covered in the course. Both the core material and the analytically more difficult material is covered in the class. Students are encouraged to actively participate in the uncovering of the European integration logic.

Short videos, class debates, and guest lectures are an integral part of the learning process.

### Assessment and Final Grade

1.	Class Presentation	10%
2.	Case Study	30%
3.	Written Midterm Exam	20%
4.	Written Final Exam	20%
5.	Class Participation	20%
	TOTAL	100%

### Course Requirements

#### **Class Presentation**

The terms in which the class presentations will take place will be made public once the final number of students taking the course will be known. In addition to the presentations, students must read the materials related to the topic scheduled for that week. Failing to do so counts as failure of meeting the course requirements.

## **Case Study**

This takes the form of an essay of about 3000 words that performs an EU - US comparison in a selected area (to be agreed on with the lecturer). The essay is to be uploaded on Canvas Learning System.

## **Written Midterm Exam**

Written mid-term exam: students are to answer 10 brief questions within 90 minutes.

## **Written Final Exam**

Written final exam: students are to answer 5 questions within 90 minutes.

## **Class Participation**

Assessment of students' participation in class is an inherent component of the course grade. Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Students are required to actively, meaningfully and thoughtfully contribute to class discussions and all types of in-class activities throughout the duration of the class. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared, as directed, in advance of each class session. This includes valued or informed engagement in, for example, small group discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

Students are responsible for following the course content and are expected to ask clarification questions if they cannot follow the instructor's or other students' line of thought or argumentation.

The use of electronic devices is only allowed for computer-based in-class tests, assignments and other tasks specifically assigned by the course instructor. Students are expected to take notes by hand unless the student is entitled to the use of computer due to his/her academic accommodations. In such cases the student is required to submit an official letter issued by his/her home institution specifying the extent of academic accommodations.

Class participation also includes students' active participation in Canvas discussions and other additional tasks related to the course content as specified by the instructor.

Students will receive a partial participation grade every three weeks.

## **Attendance**

To encourage engaged learning, regular class attendance is required throughout the program. This includes any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as internship, service-learning, or other required field placement.

An excused absence in a CIEE course will only be considered if approved by a CIEE Center Director/Academic Director (not the Instructor), and:

- it is a self-certified absence for illness (only once per course, requires formal request before or within 24 hours, cannot miss assessment worth more than 5% of final course grade)
- a doctor's note from a local medical professional is provided
- evidence of a family emergency is provided
- it is a pre-approved observance of religious holiday

Unexcused absences include personal travel and/or travel delays, as well as missing more than 25% of a single class period (including tardiness and early departure). Assessments missed due to unexcused absences will be marked as zero. Students with over 10% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff. Students with over 20% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff, receive a formal warning letter (shared with their home institution) and lose 10% of the final course point total (e.g., a final A grade of 93% will be lowered to a B grade of 83%).

For more detail, please consult your CIEE Academic Manual.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is essential to a positive and inclusive teaching and learning environment. All students are

expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness, respect, and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in grade penalties or disciplinary action. See the CIEE Student Academic Manual for further information on academic integrity.

***N.B. Course schedule and co-curriculars are subject to change. The final duration and distribution of content and assignments will be determined and presented to students at the onset of the course.***

## **Weekly Schedule**

### **Week 1**

Class: Three EU-creative processes - deepening, enlargement, and transformation

Course Introduction

### **Week 2**

Class: The history of European economic integration

Required readings:

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 1.

Spolaore, Enrique. (2013)

### **Week 3**

Class: EU Institutions and the Budget

Mandatory field trip

Required readings:

<http://europa.eu/> About the EU

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 2.

### **Week 4**

Class: Decision-making in the EU

Required trip (October 17)

Required readings:

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 3.

The Economist (2012).

### **Week 5**

Class: Essential economics of preferential liberalization I

Required readings:

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 4.

### **Week 6**

Class: Essential economics of preferential liberalization II

*Midterm Exam Period*

Midterm exam

Required readings:

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 5.

### **Week 7**

Class: EU competition and state aid policy

Required readings:

<http://europa.eu/> Policy areas – internal market, competition.

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 11.

**Week 8**

Class: Common agricultural policy

Required readings:

<http://europa.eu/> Policy areas – agriculture.

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 9.

**Week 9**

Class: Location effects, economic geography, and regional policy

Required readings:

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 10.

**Week 10**

Class: EU trade policy, external economic relations

Required readings:

<http://europa.eu/> Policy areas – economic and monetary affairs

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 12.

Deadline for the Case study

**Week 11**

Class: Essential facts of EU monetary integration, optimum currency areas

Required readings:

<http://www.ecb.eu/ecb/educational/html/index.en.html>

*The Economist* (2014).

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 13, 14, 15.

**Week 12**

Class: The European monetary union, Fiscal policy and the Stability pact

Required readings:

<http://europa.eu/> Policy areas – economic and monetary affairs

Baldwin & Wyplosz (2012): chapters 16, 17.

Gandrud & Hallerberg (2014).

**Week 13**

Class: Final Exam Week

Final Exam

**Course Materials**

**Readings**

***Required:***

Baldwin, R. & Wyplosz, C. (2012). *The Economics of European Integration*, 4th ed., New York City: McGraw-Hill.

*The Economist*. (26 May 2012). An Ever-Deeper Democratic Deficit.

*The Economist*. (2014). The Euro Crisis: Back to Reality: The Debt of Some Euro-Zone Economies Looks Unsustainable.

Gandrud, C. & Hallerberg, M. (2014). Does Banking Union Worsen the EU's Democratic Deficit? The Need for Greater Supervisory Data Transparency. *Journal of Common Market Studies*, published online 8 DEC 2014.

Spolaore, E. (2013). What is European Integration Really About? A Political Guide for Economists. NBER Working Paper 19122.

### **Recommended:**

Gilbert, M. (2012). *European Integration: A Concise History*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Neal, L. (2007). *The Economics of Europe and the European Union*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

### **Online Resources**

[http://europa.eu/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/index_en.htm)

<http://www.ecb.eu/ecb/educational/html/index.en.html>